

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MINUTES

AUGUST 5, 2004

WAYNE J. SAGRERA
VICE-CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

The following constitute minutes of the Commission Meeting
and are not a verbatim transcript of the proceedings.

Tapes of the meetings are kept at the
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

For more information, call (225) 765-2806

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
AUGUST 5, 2004

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday, August 5, 2004

Vice-Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding.

Terry Denmon
Earl King, Jr.
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie, III
Jerry Stone

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present.

Chairman Bill Busbice was absent from the meeting.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **July 1, 2004 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Mouton and seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

Under **Commission Special Announcements**, Vice-Chairman Sagrera introduced Mr. Bo Boehringer, Press Secretary and Mr. Parke Moore, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Wildlife. He then asked the two new Commission Members to introduce themselves. Mr. Bobby Samanie, a shrimp processor from Dulac, stated his goal was to help protect the resources. Mr. Earl King, Jr. stated he has a duty, obligation as well as a moral and ethical responsibility as a Commissioner to make decisions based on the best interests of the people of this State. His agenda was to balance commercial and sports interests with the conservation of the resources.

Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season began with Mr. Noel Kinler stating a Resolution and Notice of Intent was presented to establish a permanent opening date for the wild alligator season. At the July Meetings, usually an opening date was established for the September season of that year. The reason for this method was to gather biological information on timing of nesting and egg hatching and set the season immediately following egg hatching. Since 1986, an egg ranching program has been established where eggs are provided as stock to alligator farms. In 2003, over 350,000 eggs were collected from the wild and since the inception of the program, about 4 million eggs have been provided. With this program, Mr. Kinler stated it was not biologically necessary to project hatching dates since the majority of those eggs are collected. He then asked the Commission to

approve the proposed opening date so all participants can be notified well ahead of time. The proposal was to set the opening date of the season as the first Wednesday of September. For 2005, the season would open on September 7; in 2006, it would open on September 6 which are similar to dates set in years past. He then asked the Commission to consider the Resolution and Notice of Intent. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Kinler to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Hearing no public comments, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

Wild Alligator Harvest Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

- WHEREAS, Louisiana has historically led the world in the production of crocodilians with value to alligator hunters of over \$181 million between 1972 and 2003, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana ranching program (wild egg collection) largely supports a statewide alligator farming program, producing approximately 200,000 hides per year, and
- WHEREAS, the comprehensive Louisiana alligator management program contributes significantly to conserving alligators and their wetland ecosystems, and
- WHEREAS, the harvest of this renewable resource is important in providing supplemental income to citizens of the state while furnishing an essential management tool to reduce nuisance wildlife problems, foster wetlands biodiversity, and provide cultural and economic benefits to the citizens of the state, and
- WHEREAS, regulated alligator sustainable use management programs developed during the past 30 seasons have built an industry that is unique and exceptional, and
- WHEREAS, historical and current information collected by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have indicated that the optimum time frame for the harvest of alligators is the month of September, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the season for taking alligators in the wild to open annually on the first Wednesday of September and will remain open for 30 days thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to delay, extend, close or reopen this season based on technical data or if enforcement problems develop.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Notice of Intent to establish the open season for the taking of wild alligators is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

Wayne J. Sagera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby advertise its intent to establish the open season for the taking of wild alligators.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 7. Alligators

§701. Alligator Regulations

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish regulations governing the harvest of wild populations of alligators and alligator eggs, raising and propagation of farmed alligators, tanning of skins and regulations governing the selling of hides, alligator parts and farm raised alligators. The administrative responsibility for these alligator programs shall rest with the Department Secretary; the Assistant Secretary, Office of Wildlife; and the Fur and Refuge Division.

1. - 6. ***

7. Open Season, Open Areas, and Quotas.

a. Open seasons are as follows:

i. ~~The general open season for taking alligators in the wild may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting shall open on the first Wednesday of September and will remain open for 30 days thereafter.~~ The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend, delay, or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

* * *

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:259, R.S. 56:262, R.S. 56:263 and R.S. 56:280.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 16:1070 (December 1990), amended LR 17:892 (September 1991), LR 19:215 (February 1993), LR 20:321 (March 1994), LR 26:1492 (July 2000), LR 28:1996 (September 2002), LR 30: , LR 30: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Mr. Robert Helm stated he would begin the next item, **Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons**, by noting the harvest estimates for Louisiana went up over 60 percent last year and the average per hunter went from 14 ducks to 20 ducks. Louisiana has re-obtained its status as the number one harvest state in the Mississippi Flyway and the number one harvest state in the country. Mr. Helm then gave some insight into the harvest numbers. The September season was 16 days versus 9 the previous year and it was much more successful. The increase in blue-winged teal harvest accounted for 2 of that 6 bird increase. The actual harvest estimates from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service comes with a margin of error of ± 15 percent. The harvest from all four

Flyways last year were similar to the last two years. The leading Flyway, the Mississippi Flyway, took 6.5 million ducks last year. The breeding population and harvest surveys in North America do not suggest a decline in population or harvest. A video from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the status of waterfowl was shown. The film was captured before the habitat on the prairies turned around which occurred with rains from mid-May through June. Following the video, Mr. Helm stated he and Mr. Phil Bowman attended the Mississippi Flyway Council Meeting in Minnesota and the details from the video were discussed. Mallard populations remain unchanged from last year and remain near the long term average. The mallard is the main duck when it comes to regulation time, commented Mr. Helm. Other species which are very important to Louisiana include gadwall, green-winged teal and shovelers. As a result of the populations, the liberal season package of 60 day, 6 birds per day was recommended. Pintail and canvasbacks would have a season within a season of 30 days. Mr. Helm reminded everyone that no matter the number of ducks in North America, local habitat and weather patterns in the U.S. would greatly affect what will be seen here in Louisiana each year. The framework closing date changed from January 25 this year to January 30 for 2005. The zone line, changed several years ago, has all of the coastal marshes in the West Zone which would allow the taking of early migrants along the coast. The recommendations were as follows: ducks and coots in the West Zone - November 13-December 5 and December 18-January 23. The East Zone would open a week later beginning November 20-December 5 and December 18-January 30. The pintail season would run the first 9 days of the split in the West Zone and then reopen on December 18-January 7. In the East Zone, the pintail season would open with the first split and close on November 28 and reopen on December 18-January 7. Canvasback season would be a statewide season and would run from December 18-January 16. Youth waterfowl weekends would occur the weekend prior to the opening in each zone, November 6-7 in the West Zone and November 13-14 in the East Zone. Daily bag limits remain the same as last year. Statewide goose season would go from November 6-December 5 and reopen on December 18-February 11. Bag limits for geese also will remain the same. A 9 day Canada goose season would run from January 15-January 23 and was open statewide except for a small area of southwest Louisiana that has resident Canada Geese. Conservation Order for light geese would go from December 6-17 and reopen on February 12 through the end of March. The second split for rails and gallinules would reopen November 13 and go until January 12. Snipe season would open on November 6 and go through February 20. Shooting hours would remain the same as last year.

Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a down side to going from a 16 day first split to a 9 day season? Mr. Helm stated the East Zone was a big area and a key spot for that zone is Catahoula Lake in north central Louisiana. Duck use on Catahoula Lake is very similar to what would be expected on the coastal zone. So, Mr. Helm felt hunting on the lake was much better earlier. With the

East Zone being more mallard oriented which makes hunting better later, there are 44 straight late days of hunting. Commissioner Denmon added that record keeping from people he has talked with indicated more ducks were killed from the second week of December through the end of December and this is the reason for asking to have a 9 day first split and adding the second split a week earlier. Mr. Helm stated he recognized that as a popular opinion among hunters and if this change would occur, it would affect the goose season as well. Again he felt Catahoula Lake and Toledo Bend areas would prefer and benefit from a 16 day first split season. Commissioner Mouton stated he was hearing the same as Commissioner Denmon in that hunters from north Louisiana and from the Atchafalaya Basin area are wanting a 9 day season. He was also asked by hunters to put the youth hunt between the two splits. Commissioner Mouton added that he liked the season structure for pintails. He felt Catahoula Lake was driving the whole scenario for the East Zone. Mr. Helm stated the Federal guidelines would not allow having a separate season for Catahoula Lake which would be ideal. Again he noted any changes to what was recommended would require corresponding changes to other seasons. Commissioner Stone asked if it was true, the further south one goes the more people want that first season to be longer? Mr. Helm answered yes, adding opinions vary all over the state. Commissioner Stone felt the recommendations were a reasonable solution and suggested going with the Department. Public comments were accepted at this point.

Mr. Sonny Ourso, a southwest Louisiana hunter, stated over the last several years, the Conservation Order for 12 days in December did not allow them to shoot any speckled-bellied, blues or snow geese. The later in the season it gets, Mr. Ourso felt it was harder and harder to call and kill the geese. He suggested setting the season from November 6 through January 30 and this would cover the whole spectrum.

Mr. Kurt Stansell, Hackberry Rod and Gun Club, stated years ago the duck season used to open the first Saturday in November. They have a lot of ducks at that time and asked for a 30 day first split and a 30 day second split.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Helm to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Stone made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, public hearings have been held to discuss the status of waterfowl, including ducks, coots, and geese in Washington DC, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for waterfowl including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for waterfowl within the constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby tentatively adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these tentative dates will be ratified by Declaration of Emergency unless significant changes are mandated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to take any and all steps necessary on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate these seasons as a Declaration of Emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulations set for Louisiana's 2004-2005 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

TENTATIVE SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR DUCKS, COOTS AND GEESE, 2004-05

DUCKS AND COOTS: (EXCEPT PINTAIL AND CANVASBACK)

West Zone: (60 days)	Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (23 days)
	Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 23 (Sun.) (37 days)
East Zone: (60 days)	Nov. 20 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (16 days)
(Including Catahoula)	Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 30 (Sun.) (44 days)

Lake)

Pintail Season Dates (30 days)

West Zone:	Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Nov. 21 (Sun.) (9 days)
	Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 7 (Fri) (21 days)
East Zone:	Nov. 20 (Sat.) - Nov. 28 (Sat.) (9 days)
	Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 7 (Fri.) (21 days)

Canvasback Season Dates (30 days)

Statewide Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 16 (Sun.)

Youth Waterfowl Weekend - Nov. 6-7 in West Zone, Nov. 13-14 in East Zone

Daily Bag Limits: The daily bag limit on ducks is 6 and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 3 mottled ducks, 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 3 scaup, and 2 redheads. During the specified 30-day seasons for pintails and canvasbacks and during youth hunts the daily bag is 1. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers - The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit - The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

GEESE:

LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE and ROSS'S) and WHITE-FRONTED GEESE

STATEWIDE: (86 days)	Nov. 6 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (30 days)
	Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Feb. 11 (Fri.) (56 days)

Daily bag limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross's): 20

Possession limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross's): None

Daily Limit on white-fronted geese: 2

Possession Limit on white-fronted geese: 4

CANADA GEESE: CLOSED IN THE AREA DESCRIBED BELOW

Jan. 15 (Sat.) - Jan. 23 (Sun.) (9 days)

Daily Limit on Canada geese: 1

Possession limit on Canada geese: 2

The Canada Goose Season will be open statewide except for a portion of southwest Louisiana. The closed area is described as follows:

Beginning at the Texas State Line, proceeding east along Hwy. 82 to the Calcasieu Ship Channel, then north along the Calcasieu Ship

Channel to its junction with the Intracoastal Canal, then east along the Intracoastal Canal to its juncture with LA Hwy. 82, then south along LA Hwy. 82 to its juncture with Parish Road 3147, then south and east along Parish Road 3147 to Freshwater Bayou Canal, then south to the Gulf of Mexico, then west along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico to the Texas State Line, then north to the point of beginning at LA Hwy. 82.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from any license vendor.

CONSERVATION ORDER FOR LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE AND ROSS'S)

STATEWIDE: Dec. 6 (Mon.) - Dec. 17 (Fri.) (12 days)
 Feb. 12 (Sat.) - Mar. 13 (Sun.) (30 days)

Only snow, blue and Ross's geese may be taken under the terms of the Conservation Order, which allows the use of electronic calls and unplugged shotguns and eliminates the daily bag and possession limits. During the Conservation Order, shooting hours begins one-half hour before sunrise and extends until one-half hour after sunset.

RAILS: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)

 KING AND CLAPPER: Daily bag limit 15 in the aggregate, Possession 30.

 SORA AND VIRGINIA: Daily bag and possession 25 in the aggregate.

GALLINULES: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)
 Daily bag limit 15, Possession limit 30

SNIPE: Nov. 6 (Sat.) - Feb. 20 (Sun.) (107 days)
 Daily bag limit 8, Possession limit 16

Shooting Hours: one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake Recreation Area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the Conservation Order, end at 2 p.m.

A Resolution - Dove Season Dates was handled by Mr. Brandt Savoie. He stated at the July Meeting, the Commission changed the proposed season dates on doves. As a result, an extreme amount of public comment has been received asking to go back to the original dates. The Resolution would bring the season dates back to those recommended by staff and would allow for a 9 day dove season in September. The recommended dates would be September 4-12, October 9-November 14 and December 18-January 10. Commissioner Denmon stated the dove season became controversial years back due to the

north-south presence of doves. The Commissioners at that time made a gentleman's agreement to alternate between a 70 day, 12 bird option one year and then a 60 day, 15 bird option the next. Commissioner Denmon felt the north Louisiana hunters needed the September dates since it was such a big sport only during that month. In the last several years, most of the northern Louisiana hunters were okay with the 70 day, 12 bird option. He now believed that the gentleman's agreement was not necessary because both groups have what they now want as long as north Louisiana hunters have their 9 day September season. Commissioner Mouton stated he talked to a lot of the same hunters in north Louisiana as Commissioner Denmon. He noted he wrote the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about a north-south line and they sent a letter back stating if there was a line, the south zone could not open their season until September 28. Commissioner Mouton asked the Department to start the process of looking at a north-south line. He then stated he agreed with Commissioner Denmon in that the 70 day, 12 bird option made most hunters happy. He then mentioned he would support the 9 day season in September. Commissioner Denmon asked if it was a federal mandate that the south zone could not open until September 28? Mr. Savoie stated yes that was a mandate and the Department did not have any flexibility with that. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Jimmy Billeaud, St. Martinville, stated going back to the original dates was not a big thing, but asked the Commission if they realized that 74.8 percent of dove hunters resided in south Louisiana. He felt what Commissioner Mouton stated about a north-south line needed to be done now. Mr. Billeaud wanted someone to go to Washington and see about getting the south zone's opening date changed. He then read from a LSU Commission Report survey conducted in 1993 on mourning dove hunting. Again Mr. Billeaud suggested there be a north-south line and also allow southern hunters the opportunity to hunt Labor Day. Commissioner Denmon stated to Mr. Billeaud that what he asked for was outside of their control, but the Commission agreed with his proposal. He then asked Mr. Billeaud if he still wanted a zone if the south hunters could not hunt until late September. Mr. Billeaud answered no, he would not want the zone. Mr. Savoie stated Mr. Mike Olinde would be going to a meeting in January representing the Department and this issue would be addressed.

Commissioner Stone made a motion to amend the previously adopted Resolution from the July 1, 2004 meeting and adopt the dove season dates attached to the present Resolution. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Savoie then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Mouton made a motion to accept the Resolution. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission meeting in Baton Rouge, LA August 5, 2004.

- WHEREAS, public hearings in Washington, D.C. have been held on early migratory bird season regulations that include dove, snipe, rail, gallinule, woodcock and teal, and
- WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing early migratory bird season frameworks have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and
- WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory species that include season dates, bag limits, and shooting hours, and
- WHEREAS, it is the statutory responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for these migratory species within constraints established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, and
- WHEREAS, this Commission adopted tentative season dates for early migratory birds at the July 1, 2004 Commission meeting, and
- WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Commission to modify that portion of the season selection relative to doves. This is based upon historical season selection including: (1) a 9-day segment for September that was developed as a compromise for the 70-day seasons when zoning was no longer selected, (2) an early October opening for the 2nd split, (3) a tradition of an ending season date usually January 6th or later, and (4) subsequent public comments,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Commission does hereby modify its July 1, 2004 resolution to adopt those tentative season dates and times for doves which are attached to and made part of this resolution, subject to the following stipulations:

- (1) The Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to take any and all steps necessary on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate these seasons, including promulgation as a Declaration of Emergency and preparation and transmission of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government; and
- (2) If significant changes occur as a result of changes in the framework established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or for other reasons, the Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to alter the attached seasons based upon the recommendations of Department staff, supported by biological and technical data; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Secretary Dwight Landreneau is hereby directed to compile a single document containing all tentative season dates for early season migratory birds as modified by this resolution.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004-05 Mourning Doves Hunting Season Dates and Times

Statewide, Split Season, 70-day/12-bird aggregate daily bag and 24-bird aggregate possession

Start Date	End Date	Days
September 4 (Sat.)	September 12 (Sun.)	9 days
October 9 (Sat.)	November 14 (Sun.)	37 days
December 18 (Sat.)	January 10 (Mon.)	24 days

Eurasian Collared-Doves and Ringed Turtle-Doves--Eurasian collared-doves and ringed turtle-doves may only be hunted or taken during the open mourning dove season. There is no bag limit on Eurasian collared-doves or ringed turtle-doves provided that a fully feathered wing and head remain attached to the carcass of the bird. Fully dressed Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle-doves (those without a fully feathered wing and head naturally attached to the carcass) shall be included in the daily bag limit for mourning doves.

Shooting Hours: **Mourning Dove:** One-half hour before sunrise to sunset except on September 4&5, October 9&10, and December 18&19 when shooting hours will be 12:00 noon to sunset.

Mr. Brandt Savoie noted the next item, Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs did not need to be discussed with the previous action taken.

Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin began with Commissioner Mouton stating he has received a lot of calls on the 14 inch minimum size limit in the Basin. Surveys conducted at the boat landings indicated a majority wanted a 14 inch minimum. He asked the Department if they were surveying camp owners and felt if they were not, a lot of people were missed. Commissioner Mouton then noted the Louisiana Wildlife Federation suggested the harvest of 5 black bass under 14 inches in length and 5 in the 14 inch and over class. Mr. John Roussel stated the regulation in effect now goes back to Hurricane Andrew and the current Commissioners were not involved in setting this regulation. He then asked Mr. Mike Walker to give a brief history on this issue. Mr. Walker stated the 14 inch minimum, 10 fish limit was placed on black bass in the Basin in October 1992 after the fish kill caused by Hurricane Andrew. March 1993 this rule was enacted with a sunset clause and the same occurred in 1995. In 1997, this rule was enacted without a sunset clause which came from requests by a majority of bass anglers that fish in the Basin. Opinion surveys conducted at that time along with creel surveys showed that 71 percent of the bass anglers favored keeping the 14 inch minimum and 65 percent of all anglers also were in favor of keeping the 14 inch minimum. The opinion survey was repeated in 2003 at boat ramps in the Atchafalaya Basin. Sixty-two percent of bass anglers and 58 percent of all anglers were in favor of keeping the 14 inch minimum. Commissioner Mouton asked Mr. Walker if they survey any camps? Mr. Walker stated they only go to boat ramps. Commissioner Mouton then stated they were missing a big group of fishermen. Mr. Roussel stated a yes or no could not be answered to that statement. All of the camps in the Basin have to be accessed by boat and would launch from a boat ramp, so they should be included in the survey. Commissioner Mouton stated in the Stephenville area, people leave their boats on a boat lift and do not go to the boat landings every weekend. Mr. Roussel stated Stephenville was a different situation where there is land access to camps. He added staff has an extensive amount of data on the Basin and did not feel it appropriate to present that now but would at a time when a specific regulation was discussed. Commissioner King asked if the surveys were random or were they taken during bass tournaments? Mr. Walker stated they use a creel method put forth by the American Fisheries Society and the ramps, times and dates are selected on a random basis. These anglers are interviewed, if they were fishing, in the order they appeared at the boat ramp. Mr. Walker did note they do not seek or deny any one particular person to interview. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Don Puckett if it was appropriate to take public comments since it was a discussion item. Mr. Puckett stated the Commission could chose to hear public comments. The meeting was opened for public comments.

Mr. Bobby Sheets stated in 2003 the Department surveyed 266 bass anglers that resulted in 78 percent favoring the 14 inch minimum. He felt staff was targeting people they wanted to interview such as bass fishermen and tournament fishermen. Mr. Sheets noted the only way to resolve this issue was to get a vote from every fisherman.

Mr. Carl Gremillion, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, asked for a show of hands from the audience of those that wanted to keep the regulation or those that wanted a change. With a majority wanting a change, he then asked the Department to check out the situation.

Mr. Ernie Gammon, a camp owner in the Basin, stated he was interviewed. He did not understand why the focus was on the number of people interviewed and not the biology that supported the 14 inch size limit. He strongly hoped the Commission would base its decision on what was best for the resource based on scientific data.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, began welcoming the new Members and noted he looked forward to working with them. Then he stated, back in 1991, the State built the bass management plan and it was decided two areas would not be managed and those were the marsh and Atchafalaya Basin. Then Hurricane Andrew came along and there was a need for the 14 inch minimum. The biology tells you that the population of the black bass in the Basin has recovered and there is not a need to conserve the resource. The Federation proposed allocating the resource by allowing 5 fish under 14 inches and 5 fish 14 inches and over. Mr. Lanctot stated the Atchafalaya Basin is a lot different from any other area in the state when it comes to freshwater fishing with the diverse group there. He concluded asking the Commission to continue looking into the matter.

Mr. Dan Brabham stated he started fighting against the black bass management plan in 1992 or 1993 since he felt most people were against it. He then commented that no one knew there was a Black Bass Task Force formed in 1988 unless they were a tournament fisherman or someone associated with the Department. Mr. Brabham suggested sending out a random poll and not do a survey at a boat ramp.

Mr. Will Courtney, Louisiana BASS Federation, stated he and the Federation were against any action that would not employ sound, biological evidence.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera advised the Department they should take this under advisement and get both sides of the story and proceed from there. Commissioner Mouton asked that a Notice of Intent be presented at the next meeting to look at changing the bass limits in the Atchafalaya Basin similar to the proposal by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. Mr. Roussel asked for exact guidance from the Commission on what they wanted to look at. Commissioner Mouton

stated he was interested in the proposal of 5 fish under 14 inches and 5 fish 14 inches and over.

Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process was handled by Commissioner Mouton. He asked Mr. Brandt Savoie to come up and talk about setting deer and small game seasons for a three year period. Mr. Savoie reminded the Commission that it was stated at the last meeting that the Department would look into setting the hunting seasons for three years instead of changing dates every year. Department staff and the Secretary met and agreed to proceed immediately. This proposal would include setting the hunting seasons and area boundaries for three years. It was hoped that the seasons would be established by January or February so those hunters that have to schedule their vacations would know when to ask for time off. However, Mr. Parke Moore stated during this next year, plans would be discussed and formulated and then the year after that the three year proposal would be presented. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked if he understood that the same process would occur next year and then change the following? Mr. Moore stated that was correct. Commissioner Denmon commented he did not understand why there would be a three year limit since many other states have regulations set indefinitely unless data suggests it should be changed. He agreed that this process was badly needed. Mr. Moore stated that Commissioner Denmon's comments were appropriate and the three years were just a minimum timeframe. Commissioner Stone added that Louisiana can not bend to all of the variables in order to have statistically valid data. But he felt there should be a method of bending for weather situations.

Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill began with Commissioner Mouton asking Mr. John Roussel to give a recap of what happened and who has final control over the fish. Mr. Roussel provided a handout to the Commissioners and then he asked Mr. Mark McElroy to go over the information which would help to see what the bill actually does and the role the Commission will play. Mr. McElroy reminded the Commission a copy of the Act was mailed to them prior to the meeting. In the 2003 Legislative Session, a similar bill passed the legislature but Governor Foster vetoed the bill. The Governor decided to set up a Council within his Office to deal with aquaculture issues and meetings were held during the past year. Earlier this year, a new bill was introduced and finally passed. Mr. McElroy highlighted the Bill with the definition of aquatic livestock; the creation of an Aquaculture Council and their composition and duties; the Commissioner of Agriculture's responsibilities; the duties of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission; some of the minimum criteria to be used by all in determining whether or not a species was suitable for aquaculture and enforcement's duties. A flow chart showed that the Council would meet and they would obtain as much of the scientific information on the species as possible and assign a risk factor on that species and then the Council would make a formal presentation

to the Commission. Mr. McElroy felt the Commission had three choices at this point, to deny the recommendation, modify it or accept the recommendation. If the Commission adopts a modified or the original version of the recommendation, then a Notice of Intent would be promulgated. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry would also promulgate a rule. If the species was rejected, it could be brought back before the Commission by the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, by the Commissioner of Agriculture, by those two jointly or by the Council. Once a recommendation was brought to the Commission's consideration three times, it could then be taken to the 19th Judicial District Court. Commissioner Stone asked if they have the authority to alter the Commission's recommendation. Mr. Roussel explained that basically the Commission was the "gate keeper". In order for a species to be considered aquatic livestock, a rule would need to be adopted following the normal rulemaking process. Once a set of rules noting how a species can be grown and deemed aquatic livestock, the Commissioner of Agriculture cannot undercut the Commission's rules when he adopts his own set of rules. The only way the Commission would be out of the process would be if they took no action within 90 days. Mr. Roussel felt the Act was straight forward. Commissioner Stone congratulated the Department on working with the legislation and acknowledged the Secretary performed well in getting this to something the Commission could live with and help to protect the resources of the State.

The **Monthly Law Enforcement Report for July** was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers were issued during July.

Region I - Minden - 75 citations, 32 warnings and 1 public assist.

Region II - Monroe - 103 citations, 36 warnings and 7 public assists.

Region III - Alexandria - 163 citations, 10 warnings and 6 public assists.

Region IV - Ferriday - 83 citations and 19 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 133 citations, 23 warnings and 11 public assists.

Region VI - Opelousas - 243 citations, 93 warnings and 14 public assists.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 197 citations, 13 warnings and 22 public assists.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 177 citations, 9 warnings and 8 public assists.

Region IX - Schriever - 229 citations, 100 warnings and 14 public assists.

Oyster Strike Force - 23 citations, 5 warnings and 1 public assist.

Seafood Investigative Unit - 18 citations.

SWEP - 29 citations and 3 warnings.

Refuge Patrol - 25 citations, 2 warnings and 10 public assists.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of July was 1,403. Also 335 warning citations were issued and agents helped with 83 public assist cases.

The aviation report for July 2004 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 32 hours for enforcement and 15.8 hours for other divisions. No citations were issued.

Major LaCaze then commented there were reports of illegal shrimping in Zone 2 prior to the Monday opening of the season. Over 40 boats were cited for shrimping in closed season in that area which kept the agents quite busy.

Mr. Brant Savoie handled the next agenda item, a **Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates**. At the July Meeting, the Commission took action to change the dates for the modern firearm still hunt and the first split of the muzzleloader season in Area 6. Mr. Savoie noted considerable public comments were received since that time on those changes as well as several Commissioners wanting to revisit the issue. The action would bring the dates back to those before the July Meeting. He then suggested the Commission make a motion to reconsider the dates. Commissioner Stone made a motion to amend the previously adopted rule setting the Area 6 season dates and to return to the April dates. Commissioner Mouton voiced his objection to the motion. Commissioner King seconded the motion. Commissioner Stone felt the changes from the last meeting did not allow for public comment and did not allow for adequate input from the Department. He offered the motion in an effort to apologize to the public. Commissioner Stone also noted they would try to figure out what to do with Area 6 when the Commission begins their 3 year season setting plan. Commissioner Mouton stated he spent a lot of time talking to people on this issue and they all wanted more days to hunt. He then proposed setting a bucks only bow season north of Highway 90 from October 9-15, move the muzzleloader season to November 6-11 and open the rifle season, still hunt only November 12-December 10 and try to make the bowhunters happy. Commissioner Mouton stated he did not support the motion and did not care if the Department

received phone calls from Legislators on this issue. He commented he received lots of calls from Legislators in support of the July dates. He stated again he would vote against the motion. Commissioner Stone felt extending the hunting season was a great idea, but to do so without public and Department input, was just not right. Again, he suggested waiting until next year to extend the hunting seasons. Public comments were heard at this point.

Mr. Johnny Pourciau, a hunter from Area 6, stated the bowhunters were happy if they were in the woods just one day before the squirrel hunters. He noted he left the last meeting confused and aggravated with all of the changes. Mr. Pourciau stated October 1 was always the first day of bow season. The issue was not about shooting does, most bowhunters would be looking for a buck. He suggested going with an October 1, bucks only bow season and go until October 16 or October 9. October 1 is the date he sets his vacation for knowing that was when bow season was to open.

Mr. Andrew Busch, representing Old River Hunting Club, thanked the Commission for their hard work. He then thanked Commissioner Mouton for his work at the last meeting. His members were well pleased with the extra opportunity to hunt, but the bowhunters were a little concerned. Delaying the doe season until October 16 was a good idea, but the Club wanted to have a bucks only bow season from October 1-16. Having this season would allow the members to take mature deer with small horns.

Ms. Carlotta Soileau agreed with Commissioner Mouton and applauded the extra days given. She stated there were plenty of deer due to wildlife management and people's ethical hunting. Ms. Soileau felt the time earliest in the woods was the most important to her. She did not favor hunting in February. Ms. Soileau felt a bucks only season would not help since they do not even see any bucks that conform to the 6 point size restriction in her area. She was not certain about the Department's concern for spotted fawns since she sees them all year round. Ms. Soileau asked why is one-half of Area 6 allowed to hunt October 1 and thought it was unfair to women, children and the elderly.

Mr. Gerald Dedon, a landowner in Pointe Coupee Parish, stated he watches the bucks and does on his land. What he did not enjoy was the extensive breeding seasons and the fact that does are being killed before their fawns can survive. Also he could not see opening the black powder season the first of November which would allow other deer to be killed and their fawns possibly dying.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, stated traditions in hunting is getting harder and harder to keep. One such tradition was the October 1 opening for the archery season. He urged the Commission to stay with that date. Mr. Lanctot stated there was a lot of concern from the last meeting with the changes made and then adoption of a final rule. The Federation then

proposed the Commission should formally adopt a policy that would not allow changes to be made to a rule at the same meeting a rule was adopted. Finally, Mr. Lanctot urged the Commission to work with the Department's staff in setting the seasons in advance.

Mr. Rene Thibodaux, a bowhunter, stated the bowhunters lost about 17 days with July's decisions. He asked the Commission to change that if possible. Also, Mr. Thibodaux noted they lost their traditional opening date. Then he asked that maybe for next year, he would like to get the same number of days back and the traditional opening date.

Mr. Savoie stated the staff recommendations was to go with the modern firearm still hunt season of November 20-December 5 and the early season muzzleloader hunt dates of December 6-10. Commissioner Mouton asked for a roll call vote. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Mouton.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

As a result of public comments and staff recommendations, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates for the Area 6 deer hunting season, which dates reflect the original recommendations of Department staff.

Modern Firearms Still Hunt - November 20 - December 5
Muzzleloader - December 6-10

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Mr. Brandt Savoie announced, with the previous action, no discussion or action was necessary on the next item, **Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6.**

For the next item, **DMAp and LADT Public Comments**, Mr. David Moreland stated the Department continues to receive public comments on the proposed changes to the two programs. Four comments were received on DMAp, three were from individuals and 1 was from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. The Federation expressed concern on removing the season limit for those within the program. Mr. Moreland explained this was not an unlimited harvest of antlerless deer, but rather a controlled harvest with a specific number of tags being issued and that was all that a club could harvest. There was 1 negative comment received on the LADT program and Mr. Moreland felt this person thought a small landowner could be issued a bundle of tags. He noted that staff would recommend to small landowners in LADT that they take advantage of the either sex days rather than depending on one or two tags. The positive comments have come from those smaller landowners that were not eligible for DMAp and from DMAp clubs wanting to become less involved and only wanting the opportunity to hunt deer. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, stated they were very strongly opposed to allowing one hunter the opportunity to harvest more than the season limit of deer. He thought most DMAp clubs did not harvest their limit of does now. Again Mr. Lanctot stated they were adamantly opposed to the change. Commissioner Denmon asked Mr. Lanctot if they were okay with the other changes proposed? Mr. Lanctot answered yes, the limit was their main concern.

The Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season was handled by Mr. Fred Kimmel. Mr. Kimmel's presentation began reminding the Commission that in 2001 a framework was established to open the turkey season on the fourth Saturday in March on a statewide basis. With the current framework, the opening date ranges from March 22-March 28. Also in 2001, the bag limit was reduced from three to two birds. This change was brought on by declining populations in the state caused by excessive harvest of gobblers in some areas and years of poor production. The expectations with the change was to create a more diverse age structure in the gobblers and to stabilize the harvest. So the question now is, were we successful? Staff believes they have been. Preliminary data shows gobbler harvest has been reduced, turkey populations have rebounded in many of the critical areas and hunters reported an excellent season in 2004. In 2005 and several more times in the next 20 years, the fourth Saturday in March falls during Easter weekend. With this being a Holiday and the fact many hunters would not hunt Easter Sunday, staff was recommending a Friday opening. Statewide season recommendation was: Area A - March 25-April 24; Area B - March 25-

April 17; Area C - March 25-April 3; the private lands youth hunt would be March 19-20; and to maintain the bag limit of 1 and season limit of 2. Recommended boundary changes included opening a portion of southwest Caldwell Parish and western Caldwell Parish and adding that to Area A; opening areas in south Franklin Parish and northeast Catahoula Parish and putting them into Area C; moving a portion of eastern Madison Parish from Area B into Area A; and moving Ascension and east Iberville Parishes from Area C into Area B. Seasons on the wildlife management areas will not change this next year. There will be 27 WMAs with turkey seasons, 18 of which will not be lottery hunts, and 9 which are either lottery or a combination of lottery and non-lottery hunts. Eight WMAs will offer a youth lottery hunt. Tunica Hills WMA will replace its fourth lottery weekend with a 9 day open season. A youth lottery hunt would be added to Union WMA. Calendar adjustments were recommended for the Kisatchie National Forest Lands. The 2005 turkey season dates will be March 25-April 17 except for Caney District which will be March 25-April 10. All of the other Federal Lands would have calendar adjustments except that Lake Ophelia would drop their lottery hunt and have a three week open hunt. Commissioner Denmon asked if the fix that occurred last year for the islands within the Mississippi River would continue. Mr. Kimmel stated that area would have an increase from 9 days to 30 days for hunting. Hearing no further comments, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Kimmel to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge, LA, August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of wild turkeys and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of wild turkeys are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the turkey rules and regulations for the ~~2004~~ 2005 season.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§113. Turkey Hunting Regulations

A. Daily limit is one gobbler, two gobblers per season. Taking of hen turkeys, including bearded hens, is illegal. Still hunting only. Use of dogs, baiting, electronic calling devices and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead or BB steel shot, and bow and arrow but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited.

B. No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. Baiting means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take turkeys.

C. A baited area is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

D. Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closure.

E. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries strongly discourages feeding agricultural grains to wild turkeys as this practice increases the risk of birds contracting potentially lethal diseases. Repeatedly placing grain in the same area may expose otherwise healthy birds to disease contaminated soils, grain containing lethal toxins and other diseased turkeys using the same feeding site. Properly distributed food plots (clovers, wheat, millet and chufa) are far more desirable for turkeys and have the added benefit of appealing to a wide variety of wildlife.

F. It is unlawful to take from the wild or possess in captivity any live wild turkeys or their eggs. No pen raised turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

G. All licensed turkey hunters are required to have a Turkey Stamp in their possession while turkey hunting in addition to basic and big game hunting licenses. Additionally, a WMA Hunting Permit is required of any person (age 18-59) who hunts on land administered by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, including Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife Refuges, and Habitat Conservation Areas.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30: .

§115. Statewide Turkey Hunting Areas-Resident Game Birds and Animals

A. Shooting hours: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Turkey	See Schedule	1	2/Season

B. Turkey season will open in designated areas on the fourth Saturday in March. The Area A turkey season will be 30 consecutive days in length, the Area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the Area C turkey season will be 9 consecutive days in length. Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. Deviation from this framework may occur in those years when the fourth Saturday in March falls the day before Easter.

C. Statewide Youth Turkey Season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the statewide turkey season. Only youths younger than 16 years of age may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Each youth must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. Legal weapons and shot are the same as described for the turkey season. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth during this special hunt. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the youth during this special season counts towards their seasonal bag limit of 2.

D. ~~2004~~ 2005 Turkey Hunting Schedule

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 25 <u>24</u>
B	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 18 <u>17</u>
C	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 4 <u>3</u>
Private Lands Youth Hunt	March 28 <u>19</u> - 21 <u>20</u>

E. ~~2004~~ 2005 Turkey Hunting Season - Open Only in the Following Areas

1. Area A - March ~~27~~ 25 - April ~~25~~ 24
 - a. All of the following parishes are open:
 - i. Beauregard;
 - ii. East Baton Rouge;
 - iii. East Feliciana;
 - iv. LaSalle;
 - v. Livingston;

vi. Natchitoches (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

vii. Sabine;

viii. St. Helena;

ix. St. Tammany;

x. Tangipahoa;

xi. Vernon (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

xii. Washington;

xiii. West Baton Rouge;

xiv. West Feliciana (including Raccourci Island).

xv. Winn (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

i. Allen: North of LA 104, west of LA 26 south of junction of LA 104 to US 190, north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder;

ii. Avoyelles: That portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levee southward;

iii. Calcasieu: North of I-10;

iv. Caldwell: West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line, ~~east of LA 165 from LaSalle Parish line to the junction of LA 126, north of LA 126 westward to the Winn Parish line;~~

v. Catahoula: West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line ~~LA 126, north and east of LA 126.~~ ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15;

vi. Concordia: That portion east of LA 15 and west of US 65 from its juncture with LA 15 at Clayton;

vii. Evangeline: North and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 from St. Landry to LA 13, west of LA 13 from Pine Prairie to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;

viii. Franklin: That portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro;

ix. Grant: All of the parish except that portion of land that lies north of the Red River between US 71 and LA 8. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

x. Iberville: West of LA 1. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries;

xi. Jefferson Davis: North of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

xii. Madison: That portion lying east west of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80. Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

xiii. Pointe Coupee: All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA Hwy. 1, from Innis to the junction of LA Hwy 417, on the west by LA Hwy. 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA Hwy. 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA Hwy. 418, then LA Hwy. 418 northward to LA Hwy. 1 at Innis. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

xiv. Rapides: All of the parish except that portion of lands that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from its juncture with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest season dates;

xv. Richland: That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

xvi. St. Landry: That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east by the Atchafalaya River. EXCEPTION: the Indian Bayou Area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou Area dates;

xvii. Upper St. Martin: All within the Atchafalaya Basin. EXCEPTIONS: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou Area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA

boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates;

xviii. Tensas: That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

2. Area B - March ~~27~~ 25 - April ~~18~~ 17

a. All of the following parishes are open:

i. Bienville;

ii. Bossier;

iii. Caddo;

iv. Claiborne (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

v. DeSoto;

vi. Jackson;

vii. Lincoln;

viii. Red River;

ix. Union;

x. Webster (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;

ii. East Carroll: East of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;

iii. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

~~ii~~ iv. Ouachita: East of LA 143 from Union Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, north of US 80 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line;

~~iii. Madison: South of US 80 and east of US 65 to Tensas Parish line and all lands lying east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;~~

iv. Morehouse: West of US 165 from the Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US 165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line;

3. Area C - March 27 25 - April 4 3

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

~~i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;~~

ii. Catahoula: That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA 8 at Harrisonburg, west and north of LA 8 to LA ~~913~~ 15, west of ~~LA 913~~ and LA 15 to Deer Creek;

iii. Concordia: North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line;

~~iv~~ iii. Franklin: That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish line. Also, that portion east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562;

~~v. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;~~

~~vi~~ iv. Richland: West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Rd., south of Ringle Rd. to Ferguson Rd., south of Ferguson Rd. to Little Rd., south of Little Rd. to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

vii. Tensas: East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270

(December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30: .

§117. ~~2004~~ 2005 Wildlife Management Area Turkey - Hunting Regulations

A. General

1. The following rules and regulations concerning management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

2. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed are open to turkey hunting.

3. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 AM. All roads including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified. ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

4. Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts.

B. Permits

1. Self-Clearing Permits: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each days hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

2. Lottery Hunts: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne, Union and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving applications for all lottery hunts is

February ~~13~~ 15, ~~2004~~ 2005. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants may submit only one application and will be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in disqualification. Contact any district office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt.

C. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	Season Dates	Permit Requirements	Lottery Dates**
Bayou Macon	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>	Self-Clearing	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>
Bens Creek ¹	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 18 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Big Lake	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Bodcau	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boeuf	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boise Vernon	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-25 <u>2-24</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>
Camp Beauregard	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Jackson-Bienville	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Little River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 17-18 <u>16-17</u>	Self-Clearing	April 17-18 <u>16-17</u>
Pearl River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 18 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Pomme de Terre	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Red River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sabine	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>

Sandy Hollow ¹	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 18 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sherburne ²	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> March 29-31 <u>28-30</u>
Sicily Island	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-29 <u>25-28</u> March 30-April-1 <u>29-31</u> April 2-4 <u>1-3</u>
Three Rivers	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18 <u>11-17</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18
Tunica Hills Angola Tract ³	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18 <u>11-17</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18
Union	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>	Self-Clearing	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>
Walnut Hills	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
West Bay	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

**The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is February 15, 2005.

¹No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

²All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

³Scouting access limited. Contact Region 7 office for details (225) 765-2360.

D. Wildlife Management Area Youth Hunts

WMA	Lottery Youth Hunt Date
Bens Creek	March 20 <u>19</u>
Big Lake	March 20 <u>19</u>
Fort Polk/Peason Ridge	March 20 <u>19</u>
Jackson-Bienville	March 20 <u>19</u>
Loggy Bayou	April 10 <u>9</u>
Sherburne	March 20 <u>19</u>
Union	April <u>2</u>

E. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March 27 25-April ~~11~~ 10; all remaining KNF lands, March 27 25-April ~~18~~ 17 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. Indian Bayou Area (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), turkey hunting schedule: March 20 19 handicap only hunt, March 27 25 - April 4 3, lottery hunt only on March 27 25 - 28 27 and March 29 28 - 31 30. Contact USCOE at 337-585-0853 for further information.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March 27 25 - April 25 24; Lake Ophelia NWR, March 27 25 - 29 April 1 (lottery only), April 3 2 - 25 24; Tensas NWR, March 20 19 - 21 20 (youth lottery only), March 27 25 - April ~~11~~ 10. Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding NWR hunts.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 25:2265 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2636 (November 2000), LR 27:2272 (December 2001), LR 28:2377 (November 2002), LR 29:2514 (November 2003), LR 30: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule to Mr. David Moreland, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, until Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas was presented by Mr. Patrick Banks. During the summer months, biologists sample the public grounds, seed reservations and the public tonging areas to quantify the oyster resource. The data was analyzed and used to produce the stock assessment and to recommend the season framework. The main goals for oyster management is to maintain a healthy oyster resource on the public grounds, provide seed oysters to leaseholders for transplant onto their leases and to provide an amount of sack oysters that can be brought directly to market. The main tools used to achieve the management goals included biological sampling, habitat enhancement or cultch planning, recommending seasonal frameworks and having enforcement agents make sure the laws are followed. Mr. Banks then reported the historical oyster stock size showed high levels all through the 1990's and it peaked in 2001 with a record amount of available stock. The last 2 years there has been a drop off in the stock availability, but this year there is an increase in stock size. Statewide this has resulted in an 85 percent increase in seed resources and an increase of 12 percent in sacked-size oysters. The Marine Fisheries Division divides the coast into 7 areas called Coastal Study Areas. In 2004, the stock assessment showed 56 percent of the seed and sack oysters were located in Coastal Study Area I (Lake Borgne-Mississippi Sound area). In Coastal Study Area II, seed oyster stock represented 21 percent of the available resource and sack oyster stock represented 17 percent. Coastal Study Area III accounted for less than 1 percent of the stock oysters. No sampling occurred within Coastal Study Area IV. Coastal Study Area V accounted for 3 percent of the seed oysters and 2 percent of the sack oysters. The oysters in Coastal Study Area VI could not be determined due to incomplete information on reef sizes. Oysters from Coastal Study Area VII accounted for 20 percent of seed and 25 percent of the sack oysters. Mr. Banks then recommended the following openings: Vermilion Bay public oyster seed ground on September 8 and run through April 1, 2005; Bay Gardene Seed Reservation on September 15 and go through April; Lake Borgne-Mississippi Sound on October 1 until April 30; Coastal Study Area II on October 1 and close on April 1; Bay Junop would have a short 10 day season of October 1-10; Lake Mechant on October 11 and go through October 30; and Calcasieu Lake on October 15 until April 30. Staff was recommending leaving Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake closed. Hearing no comments from the Commission, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Jakov Jurisich, members of the Plaquemines Oyster Association and Oyster Task Force, stated he was representing himself and others that accompanied him to the meeting. At the last Task Force meeting, the seasons were discussed but were not what they wanted. A disagreement was on Black Bay where those fishermen wanted the season to open on September 8 instead of October 1. Also with Lake Borgne, they wanted the season to open anytime after October 1.

Mr. Jurisich then stated reasons for suggesting the different openings were traveling time, temperature and survival rate of the oysters. He proposed opening Black Bay on September 8 due to infestations of mussels on the reefs.

Mr. Marty Mellarine, a year round oyster fisherman, stated Black Bay opens the first Wednesday after Labor Day yearly. If the season does not open until October 1, then they have no oysters to plant and would not have any work. He thought opening Lake Borgne October 1 was fine, but having extra time at the end messed him up also. With the different openings year after year, it did not allow him the opportunity to plan when he would work.

Mr. Michael Williams asked that the Black Bay area open September 8, open the Lake Borgne area October 1, and negotiate the closing dates.

Mr. Banks clarified that Black Bay area is located in the primary public grounds in Area II.

Mr. Jakov Jurisich stated when you talk about conservation, let's conserve where the best sampling was available, which is Coastal Study Area I within Lake Borgne. He felt if the season was delayed on Lake Borgne, this would benefit the Mississippi oyster fishermen instead of Louisiana's since it was less travel time for those fishermen. Mr. Jurisich asked that Black Bay open before Lake Borgne in order to kill mussels and work the reefs. He then asked Mr. Banks if the working the reefs was true. Mr. Banks stated any material that was broken on a reef that would help oyster larval was good which was what Mr. Jurisich was talking about. Commissioner Stone asked if there was a supply and demand reason for changing the seasons? Mr. Banks stated there was a biological reason behind setting the seasons as recommended. He added that the majority of the resource was located in Area I and staff recommended to the Oyster Task Force that it open on the first Wednesday after Labor Day. The Task Force voted unanimously to delay that opening until October 1. Mr. Banks stated delaying the opening from a biological standpoint was fine with the staff. With regards to Area II, from a biological stand, Mr. Banks did not feel comfortable opening that area first since the reefs were not producing the oysters they have in the past. Commissioner Stone asked if the resource could stand an early opening in Black Bay? Mr. Banks stated the resource in that area was down for the third straight year. Mr. John Roussel stated the resource in Area I, the area north of the MRGO, was up over 100 percent. The resource in the area south of the MRGO was down 35 percent and seed availability was down 6 percent. Mr. Roussel reminded everyone that Bay Gardene would open on September 15, which was close to Black Bay in order to work that resource. Mr. Jurisich pointed out again that Black Bay was infested with mussels and from a practical and economical standpoint, it makes a lot of sense to open the area

as soon as possible in order to clean the reefs. Also, he added that Bay Gardene may last only one day.

Mr. Michael Williams stated the quality of the oysters south of the MRGO was poor and the opening on September 8 would be good to transplant the oysters to the north and let them sit. The seeding needed to be done as early as possible and this would allow the beds to cultivate.

Mr. James Keef, a St. Bernard Parish oyster fisherman, stated he has always been against changing season openings since people plan around them. He agreed with the October 1 opening for the northern side of the MRGO but September 8 would be more appropriate for the south side. Mr. Keef stated he was an oyster planter and he needed those planted early so they could be fished when summer comes around. When seeding was pushed back a month, harvest would be delayed a month.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked if there was a possibility of overharvesting if this was the only other area except for Vermilion Bay area that opened September 8? Mr. Banks answered yes, if there was a congregation of boats in an area you could overharvest. Ways to solve this would be to open more areas or to remove some seasons on the back end. Commissioner Stone asked if this was a resource under stress? Mr. Banks stated the data from the last three years indicated it was. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Banks to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Stone made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Stone commented that the Commission would work hard with the public when it did not threaten the resource. He felt this would threaten the resource and they could not bend since the Commission's job was to protect the resource.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2004/2005 Oyster Season on the Public Oyster Grounds
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the Public Oyster Seed Grounds may be fished starting on the first Wednesday following Labor Day which in 2004 is September 8, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the "Public Oyster Seed Grounds, Seed Reservations, and Tonging Areas" have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation has been determined, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433(B.2) mandates a sacking only area on the Public Grounds east of the Mississippi River, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:435.1.1 authorizes the Commission to set the harvest limit in the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground to be no more than 15 sacks of oysters per day per licensed vessel, and

WHEREAS, the Commission has considered the recommendations of the Louisiana Oyster Task Force as provided for in R.S. 56:433(B.1),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2004/2005 oyster season on Louisiana's public oyster seed grounds, seed reservations, and tonging areas is detailed in the following Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action, if necessary, to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended or may open areas if substantial oyster resources are located, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of any opening, delaying, or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action, unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2004/2005 oyster seasons on the public oyster grounds, reservations, and tonging areas is attached to and made part of this resolution.

Wayne J. Sagerera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) and 967(D), and under the authority of R.S. 56:433, R.S. 56:435.1, and R.S. 56:435.1.1 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

The oyster season in the Vermilion Bay Public Oyster Seed Ground as described in LAC 76:VII.507 and LAC 76:VII.509 will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 8, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Gardene Public Oyster Seed Reservation as described in R.S. 56:434.E will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 15, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster seasons in the primary public oyster seed grounds east of the Mississippi River as described in LAC 76:VII.511 and LAC 76:VII.513 are as follows: 1) That portion of the public oyster seed grounds bordered on the north by the Louisiana/Mississippi state line and on the south by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, including that portion of Lake Borgne as described in LAC 76:VII.513, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005, and 2) That portion of the public oyster seed grounds east of the Mississippi River bordered on the north by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and on the south by the Mississippi River and North Pass, including the sacking only area of the public grounds which is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Point to Point Gardner to Grace Point at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Junop Public Oyster Seed Reservation as described in R.S. 56:434.E will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on October 10, 2004.

The oyster season in the Lake Mechant Public Oyster Seed Grounds as described in LAC 76:VII.517, with the exception of the 2004 cultch plant within the following corners: 1) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes and 45.106 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 54.820 seconds west, 2) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 26.090 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 55.329 seconds west, 3) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 25.879 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 45.090 west, and 4) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 44.895 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 44.580 seconds west, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 11, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on October 31, 2004.

The oyster season for the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground as described in R.S. 56:435.1.1 will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 15, 2004 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005. The sack limit for Calcasieu Lake is set at 15 sacks per day as provided for in R.S. 56:435.1.1. However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures.

The following areas will remain closed for the 2004/2005 oyster season: the Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservations (as described in R.S. 56:434.E), the Public Oyster Seed Grounds located in portions of Lake Tambour, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, Deep Lake, and Barataria Bay (as described in LAC 76:VII.517), and the Sabine Lake public oyster tonging area (as described in R.S. 56:435.1).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action as necessary to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered.

The Secretary is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended, or may open areas if substantial oyster resources are located.

Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure began with Mr. Harry Blanchet stating the action would close a commercial deep water grouper season in Louisiana state waters. The major reason for the closure was to have compatible regulations with Federal waters adjacent to Louisiana which simplified enforcement of the regulations. A letter was received from National Marine Fisheries Service requesting that Louisiana state waters be closed. Hearing no comments, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Blanchet to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2004 COMMERCIAL DEEP-WATER GROUPER CLOSURE August 5, 2004

- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery is composed of five species of grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) that are harvested in deeper waters off of Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, rules for commercial harvest of deep-water grouper are established by NMFS, to provide for a commercial harvest quota for deep-water grouper in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has received notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS that the commercial quota for the deep-water grouper fishery is projected to have been filled on July 15, 2004, for the first time, and
- WHEREAS, the NMFS and the Gulf Council have sent notice to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby closes the 2004 commercial fishery for harvest of deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters, effective 12 noon on August 8, 2004 until 12:01 a.m. January 1, 2005, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and re-close the commercial deep-water grouper fishery season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season for the commercial harvest of deep-water grouper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein has been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency closing the 2004 commercial deep-water grouper fishery in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this Resolution.

Wayne J. Sagera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004 Commercial Deep-Water Grouper Closure

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

Effective 12:00 noon, August 8, 2004, the commercial fishery for deep-water groupers (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) in Louisiana waters, as described in LAC 76:VII.357.B.1 will close and remain closed until 12:01 a.m., January 1, 2005. Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest

of deep-water grouper by legally licensed recreational fishermen during the open season for recreational harvest.

Effective with this closure, no person shall commercially harvest, possess, purchase, exchange, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, exchange, barter, trade or sell deep-water groupers whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters. Also effective with this closure, no person shall possess deep-water groupers in excess of a daily bag limit, which may only be in possession during the open recreational season. Nothing shall prohibit the possession or sale of fish by a commercial dealer if legally taken prior to the closure providing that all commercial dealers possessing deep-water groupers taken legally prior to the closure shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and close the commercial season for deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of deep-water groupers in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been notified by the National Marine Fisheries Service that the commercial quota for deep-water groupers was projected to be reached on July 15, 2004, and that the Federal season closure is necessary to ensure that the quota for deep-water grouper for 2004 is not exceeded.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Marty Bourgeois to handle the next item, a **Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season**. Mr. Bourgeois stated this action would fix opening and closing dates for the fall shrimp season in Zones 1 and 3. He then explained that Zone 2 opened August 2 by the Secretary through a Resolution adopted at the July 1 Commission Meeting. The action was based on early recruitment of significant numbers of juvenile white shrimp in the estuary. Other reasons for the early opening were favorable growing conditions existed, rapid growth took place and the presence of significant numbers of marketable-sized shrimp were evident. The Declaration of Emergency asked that Zone 1 open at official sunrise on August 16 and to open Zone 3 at official sunrise on August 9. Closing date for Zone 1 would be official sunset December 21 except for Breton and Chandeleur Sounds open waters which would close at 6 a.m., March 31, 2005. Zone 3 would also close at official sunset on December 21, 2004. The Department also asked the Commission to grant authority to the Secretary to

change the closing dates if data or problems indicate a need to do so. Vice-Chairman Sagrera understood that the Zone 2 opening was a good move since he has heard nothing but positive comments on it. He also commented that the catch and size were both good. Commissioner Samanie also felt the Department "hit a home run" on opening Zone 2. Vice-Chairman asked Mr. Bourgeois to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Samanie made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Mouton. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2004 Fall Shrimp Season - Zones 1 and 3
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each calendar year for all inside waters by zone, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides that shrimp season openings shall be based on biological and technical data which indicate that marketable shrimp, in sufficient quantities, are available for harvest, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:498 provides that the minimum legal possession count on saltwater white shrimp shall average no more than 100 whole specimens to the pound (100 count per pound), except during the time period from October fifteenth through the third Monday in December when there shall be no possession count, and

WHEREAS, historical and current biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has indicated that white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 3 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the second week of August and white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 1 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the third week of August, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in the inside waters of Zones 1 and 3 is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the closing dates if biological or technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems

develop and to close and reopen all or parts of state inside and outside waters if significant numbers of small white shrimp are found in these waters.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004 Fall Shrimp Season - Zones 1 and 3

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all or parts of state inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close state outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in inside waters to open as follows:

Shrimp Management Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana inside waters from the Mississippi-Louisiana state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at official sunrise August 16, 2004, and

Shrimp Management Zone 3, that portion of state inside waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana-Texas state line, to open at official sunrise August 9, 2004.

The Commission also hereby sets the closing date for the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in inside waters in Zone 1 and Zone 3 at official sunset December 21, 2004 except in the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall remain open until 6:00 a.m., March 31, 2005. The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the closing dates if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems develop and to close and reopen all or parts of state inside and outside waters if significant numbers of small white shrimp are found in these waters.

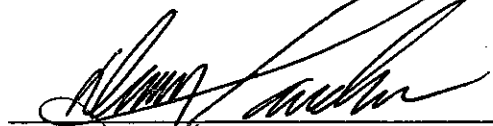
Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

MAH, 26

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **December 2004 Meeting** on Thursday, December 2, 2004, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera then asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Mouton.



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

2004-239

8/03/04

AGENDA REVISED FOR LA. WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

The agenda for the next regularly scheduled public meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting has been updated. The meeting is set for Thursday, August 5 at 10:00 a.m. in the Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Building in Baton Rouge. The revised agenda is as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season
5. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons
6. Resolution - Dove Season Dates
7. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs
8. Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
9. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process
10. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill
11. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July
12. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates
13. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6
14. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
15. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure
18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date
20. Public Comments
21. Adjournment

EDITORS: For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923
(tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov).

August 3, 2004

NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AMENDED AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for **10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 5, 2004**, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season
5. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons
6. Resolution - Dove Season Dates
7. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow
WMAs
8. Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
9. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process
10. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill
11. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July
12. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates
13. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6
14. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
15. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public
Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas

17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season
Closure

18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season

19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date

20. Public Comments

21. Adjournment

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
August 5, 2004
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season - Noel Kinler
- ~~8~~8. Discussion of Size ~~and~~ Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin - Henry Mouton
- ~~9~~9. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process - Henry Mouton
- ~~10~~10. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill - Henry Mouton
- ~~11~~11. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July - Keith LaCaze
- ~~6~~6. Resolution - Dove Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
- ~~7~~7. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs - Brandt Savoie
- ~~12~~12. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
- ~~13~~13. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6 - Brandt Savoie
- ~~14~~14. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
- ~~15~~15. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season - Fred Kimmel
- ~~5~~15. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons - Robert Helm
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas - Patrick Banks
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure - Harry Blanchet

18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall
Inshore Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois

19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date

20. Public Comments

21. Adjournment

Falcon, Susan

From: Landreneau, Dwight
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2004 4:47 PM
To: Henry Mouton
Cc: Falcon, Susan
Subject: RE: August Agenda

Henry;

I think that this is a good suggestion and by copy of this e-mail I will ask Susan to adjust the agenda to reflect your suggestion.

Thanks for the input.

Dwight

-----Original Message-----

From: Henry Mouton [mailto:henrymouton@star-service.com]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2004 4:39 PM
To: Dwight Landreneaux
Cc: Susan Falcon; Wayne Sagera; Terry Denmon; Jerry Stone; Bill Busbice; Bobby Samanie
Subject: August Agenda

Dwight,

I just received my August packet and reviewed the Agenda. I think we need to move Waterfowl up to Item 5 as there will be many people in attendance for this item ONLY and no use making them wait through the rest of the items. I had asked Susan when I spoke to her last week to move this item to the front of the Agenda and I would move the Dove Season item to Item 6 as these are both big issues at the August meeting. In that August is know as the "Duck Season" meeting, in the past, we have always made this issue first after Roll Call, Approval of Minutes, etc.

I am asking you to re do the Agenda to move these two items.

Let me know if you have a problem with this.

Thanks,

Henry



State of Louisiana

KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

2004-238

7/29/04

AGENDA RELEASED FOR LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 5, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, in Baton Rouge. The agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season
5. Discussion of Size and Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
6. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process
7. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill
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9. Resolution - Dove Season Dates
10. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs
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13. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
14. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season
15. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure
18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date
20. Public Comments
21. Adjournment

EDITORS: *For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923 (tgresham@wlf.louisiana.gov).*

July 27, 2004


NEWS RELEASE

APPROVED: 

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting has been scheduled by the Commission for **10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 5, 2004**, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season
5. Discussion of Size and Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
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9. Resolution - Dove Season Dates
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WMAs
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16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public
Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas



17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season
Closure

18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season

19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date

20. Public Comments

21. Adjournment




KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

July 27, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary 
SUBJECT: August Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at **10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 5, 2004**, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season

COMMISSIONER MOUTON

5. Discussion of Size and Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
6. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process
7. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill

WINTON VIDRINE

8. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

9. Resolution - Dove Season Dates
10. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs
11. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates
12. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6
13. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
14. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season
15. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure
18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date
20. Public Comments

DL:scf

cc: Janice Lansing
Brandt Savoie
John Roussel
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Administrators
Marianne Burke

Reviewed w/ Bill Busbice
by phone 7/22/2004

, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary

SUBJECT: August Commission Meeting Agenda

The next regular Commission Meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, August 5, 2004, in the Louisiana Room at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following items will be discussed:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - *Introduction of New Members*

COMMISSIONER MOUTON

- 5A.* Discussion of Size and Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin
- 6A.* Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process
- 8A.* Presentation on the Management of White Lake Preserve - *pulled by Henry Mouton 12:16 PM - 7/22/2004*
- 7B.* Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill

WINTON VIDRINE

- 80A.* Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July

OFFICE OF WILDLIFE

- 9 ~~10~~ ~~11~~. ^{Resolution} ~~Reconsideration of~~ Dove Season Dates
- 10 ~~11~~ ~~12~~. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs
- 11 ~~12~~ ~~13~~. ^{DE -} ~~Reconsideration of~~ Area 6 Deer Season Dates
- 12 ~~13~~ ~~14~~. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates ^{OK} in Area 6 ~~Deer Hunting~~ ^{Seasons}
- 13 ~~14~~ ~~15~~. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
- 14 ~~15~~ ~~16~~. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season
- 15 ~~16~~ ~~17~~. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons
- 4 ~~16~~. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

- 16 ~~17~~. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas
- 17 ~~18~~. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure
- 18 ~~19~~. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
- 19 ~~20~~. Set December 2004 Meeting Date
- 20 ~~21~~. Public Comments

DL:scf

cc: Janice Lansing
Brandt Savoie
John Roussel
Don Puckett
Dennis Kropog
Ewell Smith
Division Administrators
Marianne Burke

Falcon Susan

From Roussel John E
Sent Friday July 16 2004 4 47 PM
To Foote Karen
Cc Falcon Susan Banks Patrick Blanchet Harry Hanifen Jim Porch Pat Bourgeois Martin
Subject RE August Commission agenda

Concur

Original Message

From Foote Karen
Sent Friday July 16 2004 2 58 PM
To Roussel John E
Cc Falcon Susan Banks Patrick Blanchet Harry Hanifen Jim Porch Pat Bourgeois Martin
Subject August Commission agenda

If you concur I would request that the following items be put on the August Commission agenda

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency 2004 05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas Patrick Banks

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure Harry Blanchet

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season Martin Bourgeois

If the Secretary handles the shrimp season prior to the meeting we will use the agenda item to brief the Commission

Falcon Susan

From Henry Mouton [henrymouton@star service com]
Sent Wednesday July 14 2004 4 36 PM
To Dwight Landreneaux
Cc Susan Falcom
Subject August LDWF Commission Meeting

Dwight

I had asked Susan to put an item on the Agenda for a Presentation by you to the Commission on the management plan of White Lake you can pull that off

Henry

TO: Susan Falcon

FROM: Henry Mouton

SUBJECT: August LDWF Commission Meeting

Susan,

Two things I would like put on the Agenda:

1. An overview/oral presentation from Dwight or John Rousell about the Aquaculture Bill that recently passed.
2. A Presentation from Dwight as what the plans are to Manage White Lake in the way of personnel, money, equipment, etc.

Thanks,


Henry

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

July 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife
and Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *DL*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **August 5, 2004**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Friday, July 16th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, August 5th** Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on August 5th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

DL:scf

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Dave Moreland ✓
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Moreland 1) LADT & DMAP Public Comment on NOI
Moreland 2) Correction of Area 6 statewide youth hunt -
Emergency Resolution of Sandy Heitner
Correction of Elbow Slough Dove Season - OE
Helm 3) Waterfowl & other migratory bird season
Kimmel 4) 2005 Turkey Season NOI

1.) DE-Amend Youth Hunting
Dates in Area 6

Falcon, Susan

From: Savoie, Brandt
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2004 10:23 AM
To: Moreland, Dave; Falcon, Susan
Subject: FW: turkey season

2) DE- Dave Season Dates on
Elbow Slough + Sandy Hollow
WMAs

Dave, as per Dwight's concurrence, please proceed with the suggested turkey date and other items. Get with Susan to complete the FEIS and adjust the Commission agenda. Thanks.

Brandt

-----Original Message-----

From: Landreneau, Dwight
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2004 9:36 AM
To: Savoie, Brandt
Subject: RE: turkey season

Brandt:

I agree with the opening dates that you suggested. Have Susan put this on the agenda and please make sure that Dave is available to present this to the Commission.

Dwight

From: Savoie, Brandt
Sent: Tuesday, July 13, 2004 9:21 AM
To: Landreneau, Dwight
Subject: FW: turkey season

Dwight, I concur with Dave's recommendation on opening the turkey season on Good Friday March 25, 2005. I believe that this will be favorably accepted by turkey hunters. If you are in agreement I suggest that Dave present that proposal to the Commission in August. I also agree that we should continue to take comments on the LADT and DMAP Notice of Intent at the next Commission meeting. Thanks.

Brandt

-----Original Message-----

From: Moreland, Dave
Sent: Friday, July 09, 2004 3:24 PM
To: Savoie, Brandt
Subject: turkey season

Let me first say congrats on your appointment, even if it is a short one. We have four items on the Commission agenda for August, the duck season, the turkey season, correction of Area 6 youth hunt, and correction of dove hunts on two wmas, and I am suggesting we allow for any comment on the LADT and DMAP NOI (even though there will probably be none). The turkey season needs to be decided upon, either Sat. March 26 or Friday March 25, which is Good Friday; the staff supports the Friday opening, I think with most people being off it will be well-received; it keeps the season opener statewide and gives the later framework that north LA likes. There are some in s LA who want an earlier opener. If we had a turkey resource like some surrounding states perhaps we could open earlier and run late also, but we don't. Productivity may be down this year with the heavy June rains. Susan needs to know something to complete the FIS. I mentioned this to Mr. Landreneau and suggested the Good Friday opener. I have not heard from any Commission member on this.

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

July 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife
and Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *DL*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **August 5, 2004**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Friday, July 16th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, August 5th** Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on August 5th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda. Thank you for your cooperation!

DL:scf

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Dave Moreland
Bennie Fontenot ✓
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

Susan
I have no items for
the August agenda, from the
Wildlife Fisheries Division.
Thanks

Beard

C. John Rouse

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

July 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: ✓ Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife
and Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *DL*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **August 5, 2004**

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DL:scf

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Dave Moreland
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

None
[Signature]
1/13/04

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

July 2, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Undersecretary, Assistant Secretary-Office of Wildlife
and Assistant Secretary-Office of Fisheries

FROM: Dwight Landreneau, Secretary *DL*

SUBJECT: Commission Meeting Agenda - **August 5, 2004**

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Susan Falcon by Friday, July 16th any agenda items your office may have for the **Thursday, August 5th** Commission Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive. This meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. on August 5th. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate so on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

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DL:scf

cc: Commissioners
Don Puckett
Winton Vidrine
Dave Moreland
Bennie Fontenot
Karen Foote
Wynnette Kees
Brandt Savoie
Ewell Smith
Marianne Burke

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

Thursday August 5 2004

Vice Chairman Wayne Sagrera presiding

Terry Denmon
Earl King Jr
Henry Mouton
Robert Samanie III
Jerry Stone

Secretary Dwight Landreneau was also present

Chairman Bill Busbice was absent from the meeting

Vice Chairman Sagrera called for a motion for approval of the **July 1 2004 Commission Minutes**. A motion for approval was made by Commissioner Mouton and seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

Under **Commission Special Announcements** Vice-Chairman Sagrera introduced Mr Bo Boehringer Press Secretary and Mr Parke Moore Assistant Secretary for the Office of Wildlife. He then asked the two new Commission Members to introduce themselves. Mr Bobby Samanie a shrimp processor from Dulac stated his goal was to help protect the resources. Mr Earl King Jr stated he has a duty obligation as well as a moral and ethical responsibility as a Commissioner to make decisions based on the best interests of the people of this State. His agenda was to balance commercial and sports interests with the conservation of the resources.

Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season began with Mr Noel Kinler stating a Resolution and Notice of Intent was presented to establish a permanent opening date for the wild alligator season. At the July Meetings usually an opening date was established for the September season of that year. The reason for this method was to gather biological information on timing of nesting and egg hatching and set the season immediately following egg hatching. Since 1986 an egg ranching program has been established where eggs are provided as stock to alligator farms. In 2003 over 350 000 eggs were collected from the wild and since the inception of the program about 4 million eggs have been provided. With this program Mr Kinler stated it was not biologically necessary to project hatching dates since the majority of those eggs are collected. He then asked the Commission to

approve the proposed opening date so all participants can be notified well ahead of time. The proposal was to set the opening date of the season as the first Wednesday of September. For 2005, the season would open on September 7; in 2006, it would open on September 6 which are similar to dates set in years past. He then asked the Commission to consider the Resolution and Notice of Intent. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Kinler to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Hearing no public comments, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

Wild Alligator Harvest Season adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

- WHEREAS, Louisiana has historically led the world in the production of crocodillians with value to alligator hunters of over \$181 million between 1972 and 2003, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana ranching program (wild egg collection) largely supports a statewide alligator farming program, producing approximately 200,000 hides per year, and
- WHEREAS, the comprehensive Louisiana alligator management program contributes significantly to conserving alligators and their wetland ecosystems, and
- WHEREAS, the harvest of this renewable resource is important in providing supplemental income to citizens of the state while furnishing an essential management tool to reduce nuisance wildlife problems, foster wetlands biodiversity, and provide cultural and economic benefits to the citizens of the state, and
- WHEREAS, regulated alligator sustainable use management programs developed during the past 30 seasons have built an industry that is unique and exceptional, and
- WHEREAS, historical and current information collected by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have indicated that the optimum time frame for the harvest of alligators is the month of September, now

i. ~~The general open season for taking alligators in the wild may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting shall open on the first Wednesday of September and will remain open for 30 days thereafter.~~ The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend, delay, or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

* * *

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:259, R.S. 56:262, R.S. 56:263 and R.S. 56:280.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 16:1070 (December 1990), amended LR 17:892 (September 1991), LR 19:215 (February 1993), LR 20:321 (March 1994), LR 26:1492 (July 2000), LR 28:1996 (September 2002), LR 30: , LR 30: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Mr. Robert Helm stated he would begin the next item, **Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons**, by noting the harvest estimates for Louisiana went up over 60 percent last year and the average per hunter went from 14 ducks to 20 ducks. Louisiana has re-obtained its status as the number one harvest state in the Mississippi Flyway and the number one harvest state in the country. Mr. Helm then gave some insight into the harvest numbers. The September season was 16 days versus 9 the previous year and it was much more successful. The increase in blue-winged teal harvest accounted for 2 of that 6 bird increase. The actual harvest estimates from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service comes with a margin of error of ± 15 percent. The harvest from all four

Flyways last year were similar to the last two years. The leading Flyway, the Mississippi Flyway, took 6.5 million ducks last year. The breeding population and harvest surveys in North America do not suggest a decline in population or harvest. A video from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the status of waterfowl was shown. The film was captured before the habitat on the prairies turned around which occurred with rains from mid-May through June. Following the video, Mr. Helm stated he and Mr. Phil Bowman attended the Mississippi Flyway Council Meeting in Minnesota and the details from the video were discussed. Mallard populations remain unchanged from last year and remain near the long term average. The mallard is the main duck when it comes to regulation time, commented Mr. Helm. Other species which are very important to Louisiana include gadwall, green-winged teal and shovelers. As a result of the populations, the liberal season package of 60 day, 6 birds per day was recommended. Pintail and canvasbacks would have a season within a season of 30 days. Mr. Helm reminded everyone that no matter the number of ducks in North America, local habitat and weather patterns in the U.S. would greatly affect what will be seen here in Louisiana each year. The framework closing date changed from January 25 this year to January 30 for 2005. The zone line, changed several years ago, has all of the coastal marshes in the West Zone which would allow the taking of early migrants along the coast. The recommendations were as follows: ducks and coots in the West Zone - November 13-December 5 and December 18-January 23. The East Zone would open a week later beginning November 20-December 5 and December 18-January 30. The pintail season would run the first 9 days of the split in the West Zone and then reopen on December 18-January 7. In the East Zone, the pintail season would open with the first split and close on November 28 and reopen on December 18-January 7. Canvasback season would be a statewide season and would run from December 18-January 16. Youth waterfowl weekends would occur the weekend prior to the opening in each zone, November 6-7 in the West Zone and November 13-14 in the East Zone. Daily bag limits remain the same as last year. Statewide goose season would go from November 6-December 5 and reopen on December 18-February 11. Bag limits for geese also will remain the same. A 9 day Canada goose season would run from January 15-January 23 and was open statewide except for a small area of southwest Louisiana that has resident Canada Geese. Conservation Order for light geese would go from December 6-17 and reopen on February 12 through the end of March. The second split for rails and gallinules would reopen November 13 and go until January 12. Snipe season would open on November 6 and go through February 20. Shooting hours would remain the same as last year.

Commissioner Denmon asked if there was a down side to going from a 16 day first split to a 9 day season? Mr. Helm stated the East Zone was a big area and a key spot for that zone is Catahoula Lake in north central Louisiana. Duck use on Catahoula Lake is very similar to what would be expected on the coastal zone. So, Mr. Helm felt hunting on the lake was much better earlier. With the

East Zone being more mallard oriented which makes hunting better later, there are 44 straight late days of hunting. Commissioner Denmon added that record keeping from people he has talked with indicated more ducks were killed from the second week of December through the end of December and this is the reason for asking to have a 9 day first split and adding the second split a week earlier. Mr. Helm stated he recognized that as a popular opinion among hunters and if this change would occur, it would affect the goose season as well. Again he felt Catahoula Lake and Toledo Bend areas would prefer and benefit from a 16 day first split season. Commissioner Mouton stated he was hearing the same as Commissioner Denmon in that hunters from north Louisiana and from the Atchafalaya Basin area are wanting a 9 day season. He was also asked by hunters to put the youth hunt between the two splits. Commissioner Mouton added that he liked the season structure for pintails. He felt Catahoula Lake was driving the whole scenario for the East Zone. Mr. Helm stated the Federal guidelines would not allow having a separate season for Catahoula Lake which would be ideal. Again he noted any changes to what was recommended would require corresponding changes to other seasons. Commissioner Stone asked if it was true, the further south one goes the more people want that first season to be longer? Mr. Helm answered yes, adding opinions vary all over the state. Commissioner Stone felt the recommendations were a reasonable solution and suggested going with the Department. Public comments were accepted at this point.

Mr. Sonny Ourso, a southwest Louisiana hunter, stated over the last several years, the Conservation Order for 12 days in December did not allow them to shoot any speckled-bellied, blues or snow geese. The later in the season it gets, Mr. Ourso felt it was harder and harder to call and kill the geese. He suggested setting the season from November 6 through January 30 and this would cover the whole spectrum.

Mr. Kurt Stansell, Hackberry Rod and Gun Club, stated years ago the duck season used to open the first Saturday in November. They have a lot of ducks at that time and asked for a 30 day first split and a 30 day second split.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Helm to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Stone made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution is made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

Channel to its junction with the Intracoastal Canal, then east along the Intracoastal Canal to its juncture with LA Hwy. 82, then south along LA Hwy. 82 to its juncture with Parish Road 3147, then south and east along Parish Road 3147 to Freshwater Bayou Canal, then south to the Gulf of Mexico, then west along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico to the Texas State Line, then north to the point of beginning at LA Hwy. 82.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from any license vendor.

CONSERVATION ORDER FOR LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE AND ROSS'S)

STATEWIDE: Dec. 6 (Mon.) - Dec. 17 (Fri.) (12 days)
 Feb. 12 (Sat.) - Mar. 13 (Sun.) (30 days)

Only snow, blue and Ross's geese may be taken under the terms of the Conservation Order, which allows the use of electronic calls and unplugged shotguns and eliminates the daily bag and possession limits. During the Conservation Order, shooting hours begins one-half hour before sunrise and extends until one-half hour after sunset.

RAILS: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)

 KING AND CLAPPER: Daily bag limit 15 in the aggregate, Possession 30.

 SORA AND VIRGINIA: Daily bag and possession 25 in the aggregate.

GALLINULES: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)
 Daily bag limit 15, Possession limit 30

SNIPE: Nov. 6 (Sat.) - Feb. 20 (Sun.) (107 days)
 Daily bag limit 8, Possession limit 16

Shooting Hours: one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake Recreation Area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the Conservation Order, end at 2 p.m.

A Resolution - Dove Season Dates was handled by Mr. Brandt Savoie. He stated at the July Meeting, the Commission changed the proposed season dates on doves. As a result, an extreme amount of public comment has been received asking to go back to the original dates. The Resolution would bring the season dates back to those recommended by staff and would allow for a 9 day dove season in September. The recommended dates would be September 4-12, October 9-November 14 and December 18-January 10. Commissioner Denmon stated the dove season became controversial years back due to the

north-south presence of doves. The Commissioners at that time made a gentleman's agreement to alternate between a 70 day, 12 bird option one year and then a 60 day, 15 bird option the next. Commissioner Denmon felt the north Louisiana hunters needed the September dates since it was such a big sport only during that month. In the last several years, most of the northern Louisiana hunters were okay with the 70 day, 12 bird option. He now believed that the gentleman's agreement was not necessary because both groups have what they now want as long as north Louisiana hunters have their 9 day September season. Commissioner Mouton stated he talked to a lot of the same hunters in north Louisiana as Commissioner Denmon. He noted he wrote the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about a north-south line and they sent a letter back stating if there was a line, the south zone could not open their season until September 28. Commissioner Mouton asked the Department to start the process of looking at a north-south line. He then stated he agreed with Commissioner Denmon in that the 70 day, 12 bird option made most hunters happy. He then mentioned he would support the 9 day season in September. Commissioner Denmon asked if it was a federal mandate that the south zone could not open until September 28? Mr. Savoie stated yes that was a mandate and the Department did not have any flexibility with that. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Jimmy Billeaud, St. Martinville, stated going back to the original dates was not a big thing, but asked the Commission if they realized that 74.8 percent of dove hunters resided in south Louisiana. He felt what Commissioner Mouton stated about a north-south line needed to be done now. Mr. Billeaud wanted someone to go to Washington and see about getting the south zone's opening date changed. He then read from a LSU Commission Report survey conducted in 1993 on mourning dove hunting. Again Mr. Billeaud suggested there be a north-south line and also allow southern hunters the opportunity to hunt Labor Day. Commissioner Denmon stated to Mr. Billeaud that what he asked for was outside of their control, but the Commission agreed with his proposal. He then asked Mr. Billeaud if he still wanted a zone if the south hunters could not hunt until late September. Mr. Billeaud answered no, he would not want the zone. Mr. Savoie stated Mr. Mike Olinde would be going to a meeting in January representing the Department and this issue would be addressed.

Commissioner Stone made a motion to amend the previously adopted Resolution from the July 1, 2004 meeting and adopt the dove season dates attached to the present Resolution. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Savoie then read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Mouton made a motion to accept the Resolution. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it passed with no opposition.

Mr. Brandt Savoie noted the next item, **Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs** did not need to be discussed with the previous action taken.

Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin began with Commissioner Mouton stating he has received a lot of calls on the 14 inch minimum size limit in the Basin. Surveys conducted at the boat landings indicated a majority wanted a 14 inch minimum. He asked the Department if they were surveying camp owners and felt if they were not, a lot of people were missed. Commissioner Mouton then noted the Louisiana Wildlife Federation suggested the harvest of 5 black bass under 14 inches in length and 5 in the 14 inch and over class. Mr. John Roussel stated the regulation in effect now goes back to Hurricane Andrew and the current Commissioners were not involved in setting this regulation. He then asked Mr. Mike Walker to give a brief history on this issue. Mr. Walker stated the 14 inch minimum, 10 fish limit was placed on black bass in the Basin in October 1992 after the fish kill caused by Hurricane Andrew. March 1993 this rule was enacted with a sunset clause and the same occurred in 1995. In 1997, this rule was enacted without a sunset clause which came from requests by a majority of bass anglers that fish in the Basin. Opinion surveys conducted at that time along with creel surveys showed that 71 percent of the bass anglers favored keeping the 14 inch minimum and 65 percent of all anglers also were in favor of keeping the 14 inch minimum. The opinion survey was repeated in 2003 at boat ramps in the Atchafalaya Basin. Sixty-two percent of bass anglers and 58 percent of all anglers were in favor of keeping the 14 inch minimum. Commissioner Mouton asked Mr. Walker if they survey any camps? Mr. Walker stated they only go to boat ramps. Commissioner Mouton then stated they were missing a big group of fishermen. Mr. Roussel stated a yes or no could not be answered to that statement. All of the camps in the Basin have to be accessed by boat and would launch from a boat ramp, so they should be included in the survey. Commissioner Mouton stated in the Stephenville area, people leave their boats on a boat lift and do not go to the boat landings every weekend. Mr. Roussel stated Stephenville was a different situation where there is land access to camps. He added staff has an extensive amount of data on the Basin and did not feel it appropriate to present that now but would at a time when a specific regulation was discussed. Commissioner King asked if the surveys were random or were they taken during bass tournaments? Mr. Walker stated they use a creel method put forth by the American Fisheries Society and the ramps, times and dates are selected on a random basis. These anglers are interviewed, if they were fishing, in the order they appeared at the boat ramp. Mr. Walker did note they do not seek or deny any one particular person to interview. Vice-Chairman Sagraera asked Mr. Don Puckett if it was appropriate to take public comments since it was a discussion item. Mr. Puckett stated the Commission could chose to hear public comments. The meeting was opened for public comments.

Mr. Bobby Sheets stated in 2003 the Department surveyed 266 bass anglers that resulted in 78 percent favoring the 14 inch minimum. He felt staff was targeting people they wanted to interview such as bass fishermen and tournament fishermen. Mr. Sheets noted the only way to resolve this issue was to get a vote from every fisherman.

Mr. Carl Gremillion, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, asked for a show of hands from the audience of those that wanted to keep the regulation or those that wanted a change. With a majority wanting a change, he then asked the Department to check out the situation.

Mr. Ernie Gammon, a camp owner in the Basin, stated he was interviewed. He did not understand why the focus was on the number of people interviewed and not the biology that supported the 14 inch size limit. He strongly hoped the Commission would base its decision on what was best for the resource based on scientific data.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, began welcoming the new Members and noted he looked forward to working with them. Then he stated, back in 1991, the State built the bass management plan and it was decided two areas would not be managed and those were the marsh and Atchafalaya Basin. Then Hurricane Andrew came along and there was a need for the 14 inch minimum. The biology tells you that the population of the black bass in the Basin has recovered and there is not a need to conserve the resource. The Federation proposed allocating the resource by allowing 5 fish under 14 inches and 5 fish 14 inches and over. Mr. Lanctot stated the Atchafalaya Basin is a lot different from any other area in the state when it comes to freshwater fishing with the diverse group there. He concluded asking the Commission to continue looking into the matter.

Mr. Dan Brabham stated he started fighting against the black bass management plan in 1992 or 1993 since he felt most people were against it. He then commented that no one knew there was a Black Bass Task Force formed in 1988 unless they were a tournament fisherman or someone associated with the Department. Mr. Brabham suggested sending out a random poll and not do a survey at a boat ramp.

Mr. Will Courtney, Louisiana BASS Federation, stated he and the Federation were against any action that would not employ sound, biological evidence.

Vice-Chairman Sagera advised the Department they should take this under advisement and get both sides of the story and proceed from there. Commissioner Mouton asked that a Notice of Intent be presented at the next meeting to look at changing the bass limits in the Atchafalaya Basin similar to the proposal by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. Mr. Roussel asked for exact guidance from the Commission on what they wanted to look at. Commissioner Mouton

stated he was interested in the proposal of 5 fish under 14 inches and 5 fish 14 inches and over.

Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process was handled by Commissioner Mouton. He asked Mr. Brandt Savoie to come up and talk about setting deer and small game seasons for a three year period. Mr. Savoie reminded the Commission that it was stated at the last meeting that the Department would look into setting the hunting seasons for three years instead of changing dates every year. Department staff and the Secretary met and agreed to proceed immediately. This proposal would include setting the hunting seasons and area boundaries for three years. It was hoped that the seasons would be established by January or February so those hunters that have to schedule their vacations would know when to ask for time off. However, Mr. Parke Moore stated during this next year, plans would be discussed and formulated and then the year after that the three year proposal would be presented. Vice-Chairman Segrera asked if he understood that the same process would occur next year and then change the following? Mr. Moore stated that was correct. Commissioner Denmon commented he did not understand why there would be a three year limit since many other states have regulations set indefinitely unless data suggests it should be changed. He agreed that this process was badly needed. Mr. Moore stated that Commissioner Denmon's comments were appropriate and the three years were just a minimum timeframe. Commissioner Stone added that Louisiana can not bend to all of the variables in order to have statistically valid data. But he felt there should be a method of bending for weather situations.

Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill began with Commissioner Mouton asking Mr. John Roussel to give a recap of what happened and who has final control over the fish. Mr. Roussel provided a handout to the Commissioners and then he asked Mr. Mark McElroy to go over the information which would help to see what the bill actually does and the role the Commission will play. Mr. McElroy reminded the Commission a copy of the Act was mailed to them prior to the meeting. In the 2003 Legislative Session, a similar bill passed the legislature but Governor Foster vetoed the bill. The Governor decided to set up a Council within his Office to deal with aquaculture issues and meetings were held during the past year. Earlier this year, a new bill was introduced and finally passed. Mr. McElroy highlighted the Bill with the definition of aquatic livestock; the creation of an Aquaculture Council and their composition and duties; the Commissioner of Agriculture's responsibilities; the duties of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission; some of the minimum criteria to be used by all in determining whether or not a species was suitable for aquaculture and enforcement's duties. A flow chart showed that the Council would meet and they would obtain as much of the scientific information on the species as possible and assign a risk factor on that species and then the Council would make a formal presentation

to the Commission. Mr. McElroy felt the Commission had three choices at this point, to deny the recommendation, modify it or accept the recommendation. If the Commission adopts a modified or the original version of the recommendation, then a Notice of Intent would be promulgated. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry would also promulgate a rule. If the species was rejected, it could be brought back before the Commission by the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, by the Commissioner of Agriculture, by those two jointly or by the Council. Once a recommendation was brought to the Commission's consideration three times, it could then be taken to the 19th Judicial District Court. Commissioner Stone asked if they have the authority to alter the Commission's recommendation. Mr. Roussel explained that basically the Commission was the "gate keeper". In order for a species to be considered aquatic livestock, a rule would need to be adopted following the normal rulemaking process. Once a set of rules noting how a species can be grown and deemed aquatic livestock, the Commissioner of Agriculture cannot undercut the Commission's rules when he adopts his own set of rules. The only way the Commission would be out of the process would be if they took no action within 90 days. Mr. Roussel felt the Act was straight forward. Commissioner Stone congratulated the Department on working with the legislation and acknowledged the Secretary performed well in getting this to something the Commission could live with and help to protect the resources of the State.

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for July was given by Major Keith LaCaze. The following numbers were issued during July.

Region I - Minden - 75 citations, 32 warnings and 1 public assist.

Region II - Monroe - 103 citations, 36 warnings and 7 public assists.

Region III - Alexandria - 163 citations, 10 warnings and 6 public assists.

Region IV - Ferriday - 83 citations and 19 warnings.

Region V - Lake Charles - 133 citations, 23 warnings and 11 public assists.

Region VI - Opelousas - 243 citations, 93 warnings and 14 public assists.

Region VII - Baton Rouge - 197 citations, 13 warnings and 22 public assists.

Region VIII - New Orleans - 177 citations, 9 warnings and 8 public assists.

Region IX - Schriever - 229 citations, 100 warnings and 14 public assists.

Oyster Strike Force - 23 citations, 5 warnings and 1 public assist.

Seafood Investigative Unit - 18 citations.

SWEP - 29 citations and 3 warnings.

Refuge Patrol - 25 citations, 2 warnings and 10 public assists.

The grand total of citations issued statewide for the month of July was 1,403. Also 335 warning citations were issued and agents helped with 83 public assist cases.

The aviation report for July 2004 showed enforcement pilots flew three airplanes a total of 32 hours for enforcement and 15.8 hours for other divisions. No citations were issued.

Major LaCaze then commented there were reports of illegal shrimping in Zone 2 prior to the Monday opening of the season. Over 40 boats were cited for shrimping in closed season in that area which kept the agents quite busy.

Mr. Brant Savoie handled the next agenda item, a **Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates**. At the July Meeting, the Commission took action to change the dates for the modern firearm still hunt and the first split of the muzzleloader season in Area 6. Mr. Savoie noted considerable public comments were received since that time on those changes as well as several Commissioners wanting to revisit the issue. The action would bring the dates back to those before the July Meeting. He then suggested the Commission make a motion to reconsider the dates. Commissioner Stone made a motion to amend the previously adopted rule setting the Area 6 season dates and to return to the April dates. Commissioner Mouton voiced his objection to the motion. Commissioner King seconded the motion. Commissioner Stone felt the changes from the last meeting did not allow for public comment and did not allow for adequate input from the Department. He offered the motion in an effort to apologize to the public. Commissioner Stone also noted they would try to figure out what to do with Area 6 when the Commission begins their 3 year season setting plan. Commissioner Mouton stated he spent a lot of time talking to people on this issue and they all wanted more days to hunt. He then proposed setting a bucks only bow season north of Highway 90 from October 9-15, move the muzzleloader season to November 6-11 and open the rifle season, still hunt only November 12-December 10 and try to make the bowhunters happy. Commissioner Mouton stated he did not support the motion and did not care if the Department

received phone calls from Legislators on this issue. He commented he received lots of calls from Legislators in support of the July dates. He stated again he would vote against the motion. Commissioner Stone felt extending the hunting season was a great idea, but to do so without public and Department input, was just not right. Again, he suggested waiting until next year to extend the hunting seasons. Public comments were heard at this point.

Mr. Johnny Pourciau, a hunter from Area 6, stated the bowhunters were happy if they were in the woods just one day before the squirrel hunters. He noted he left the last meeting confused and aggravated with all of the changes. Mr. Pourciau stated October 1 was always the first day of bow season. The issue was not about shooting does, most bowhunters would be looking for a buck. He suggested going with an October 1, bucks only bow season and go until October 16 or October 9. October 1 is the date he sets his vacation for knowing that was when bow season was to open.

Mr. Andrew Busch, representing Old River Hunting Club, thanked the Commission for their hard work. He then thanked Commissioner Mouton for his work at the last meeting. His members were well pleased with the extra opportunity to hunt, but the bowhunters were a little concerned. Delaying the doe season until October 16 was a good idea, but the Club wanted to have a bucks only bow season from October 1-16. Having this season would allow the members to take mature deer with small horns.

Ms. Carlotta Soileau agreed with Commissioner Mouton and applauded the extra days given. She stated there were plenty of deer due to wildlife management and people's ethical hunting. Ms. Soileau felt the time earliest in the woods was the most important to her. She did not favor hunting in February. Ms. Soileau felt a bucks only season would not help since they do not even see any bucks that conform to the 6 point size restriction in her area. She was not certain about the Department's concern for spotted fawns since she sees them all year round. Ms. Soileau asked why is one-half of Area 6 allowed to hunt October 1 and thought it was unfair to women, children and the elderly.

Mr. Gerald Dedon, a landowner in Pointe Coupee Parish, stated he watches the bucks and does on his land. What he did not enjoy was the extensive breeding seasons and the fact that does are being killed before their fawns can survive. Also he could not see opening the black powder season the first of November which would allow other deer to be killed and their fawns possibly dying.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, stated traditions in hunting is getting harder and harder to keep. One such tradition was the October 1 opening for the archery season. He urged the Commission to stay with that date. Mr. Lanctot stated there was a lot of concern from the last meeting with the changes made and then adoption of a final rule. The Federation then

proposed the Commission should formally adopt a policy that would not allow changes to be made to a rule at the same meeting a rule was adopted. Finally, Mr. Lanctot urged the Commission to work with the Department's staff in setting the seasons in advance.

Mr. Rene Thibodaux, a bowhunter, stated the bowhunters lost about 17 days with July's decisions. He asked the Commission to change that if possible. Also, Mr. Thibodaux noted they lost their traditional opening date. Then he asked that maybe for next year, he would like to get the same number of days back and the traditional opening date.

Mr. Savoie stated the staff recommendations was to go with the modern firearm still hunt season of November 20-December 5 and the early season muzzleloader hunt dates of December 6-10. Commissioner Mouton asked for a roll call vote. The motion passed with opposition from Commissioner Mouton.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record.)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

As a result of public comments and staff recommendations, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates for the Area 6 deer hunting season, which dates reflect the original recommendations of Department staff.

Modern Firearms Still Hunt - November 20 - December 5
Muzzleloader - December 6-10

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season/date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Mr. Brandt Savoie announced, with the previous action, no discussion or action was necessary on the next item, **Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6.**

For the next item, **DMAp and LADT Public Comments**, Mr. David Moreland stated the Department continues to receive public comments on the proposed changes to the two programs. Four comments were received on DMAp, three were from individuals and 1 was from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. The Federation expressed concern on removing the season limit for those within the program. Mr. Moreland explained this was not an unlimited harvest of antlerless deer, but rather a controlled harvest with a specific number of tags being issued and that was all that a club could harvest. There was 1 negative comment received on the LADT program and Mr. Moreland felt this person thought a small landowner could be issued a bundle of tags. He noted that staff would recommend to small landowners in LADT that they take advantage of the either sex days rather than depending on one or two tags. The positive comments have come from those smaller landowners that were not eligible for DMAp and from DMAp clubs wanting to become less involved and only wanting the opportunity to hunt deer. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Randy Lanctot, Louisiana Wildlife Federation, stated they were very strongly opposed to allowing one hunter the opportunity to harvest more than the season limit of deer. He thought most DMAp clubs did not harvest their limit of does now. Again Mr. Lanctot stated they were adamantly opposed to the change. Commissioner Denmon asked Mr. Lanctot if they were okay with the other changes proposed? Mr. Lanctot answered yes, the limit was their main concern.

The Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season was handled by Mr. Fred Kimmel. Mr. Kimmel's presentation began reminding the Commission that in 2001 a framework was established to open the turkey season on the fourth Saturday in March on a statewide basis. With the current framework, the opening date ranges from March 22-March 28. Also in 2001, the bag limit was reduced from three to two birds. This change was brought on by declining populations in the state caused by excessive harvest of gobblers in some areas and years of poor production. The expectations with the change was to create a more diverse age structure in the gobblers and to stabilize the harvest. So the question now is, were we successful? Staff believes they have been. Preliminary data shows gobbler harvest has been reduced, turkey populations have rebounded in many of the critical areas and hunters reported an excellent season in 2004. In 2005 and several more times in the next 20 years, the fourth Saturday in March falls during Easter weekend. With this being a Holiday and the fact many hunters would not hunt Easter Sunday, staff was recommending a Friday opening. Statewide season recommendation was: Area A - March 25-April 24; Area B - March 25-

April 17; Area C - March 25-April 3; the private lands youth hunt would be March 19-20; and to maintain the bag limit of 1 and season limit of 2. Recommended boundary changes included opening a portion of southwest Caldwell Parish and western Caldwell Parish and adding that to Area A; opening areas in south Franklin Parish and northeast Catahoula Parish and putting them into Area C; moving a portion of eastern Madison Parish from Area B into Area A; and moving Ascension and east Iberville Parishes from Area C into Area B. Seasons on the wildlife management areas will not change this next year. There will be 27 WMAs with turkey seasons, 18 of which will not be lottery hunts, and 9 which are either lottery or a combination of lottery and non-lottery hunts. Eight WMAs will offer a youth lottery hunt. Tunica Hills WMA will replace its fourth lottery weekend with a 9 day open season. A youth lottery hunt would be added to Union WMA. Calendar adjustments were recommended for the Kisatchie National Forest Lands. The 2005 turkey season dates will be March 25-April 17 except for Caney District which will be March 25-April 10. All of the other Federal Lands would have calendar adjustments except that Lake Ophelia would drop their lottery hunt and have a three week open hunt. Commissioner Denmon asked if the fix that occurred last year for the islands within the Mississippi River would continue. Mr. Kimmel stated that area would have an increase from 9 days to 30 days for hunting. Hearing no further comments, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Kimmel to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Stone. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Notice of Intent are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge, LA, August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas was presented by Mr. Patrick Banks. During the summer months, biologists sample the public grounds, seed reservations and the public tonging areas to quantify the oyster resource. The data was analyzed and used to produce the stock assessment and to recommend the season framework. The main goals for oyster management is to maintain a healthy oyster resource on the public grounds, provide seed oysters to leaseholders for transplant onto their leases and to provide an amount of sack oysters that can be brought directly to market. The main tools used to achieve the management goals included biological sampling, habitat enhancement or cultch planning, recommending seasonal frameworks and having enforcement agents make sure the laws are followed. Mr. Banks then reported the historical oyster stock size showed high levels all through the 1990's and it peaked in 2001 with a record amount of available stock. The last 2 years there has been a drop off in the stock availability, but this year there is an increase in stock size. Statewide this has resulted in an 85 percent increase in seed resources and an increase of 12 percent in sacked-size oysters. The Marine Fisheries Division divides the coast into 7 areas called Coastal Study Areas. In 2004, the stock assessment showed 56 percent of the seed and sack oysters were located in Coastal Study Area I (Lake Borgne-Mississippi Sound area). In Coastal Study Area II, seed oyster stock represented 21 percent of the available resource and sack oyster stock represented 17 percent. Coastal Study Area III accounted for less than 1 percent of the stock oysters. No sampling occurred within Coastal Study Area IV. Coastal Study Area V accounted for 3 percent of the seed oysters and 2 percent of the sack oysters. The oysters in Coastal Study Area VI could not be determined due to incomplete information on reef sizes. Oysters from Coastal Study Area VII accounted for 20 percent of seed and 25 percent of the sack oysters. Mr. Banks then recommended the following openings: Vermilion Bay public oyster seed ground on September 8 and run through April 1, 2005; Bay Gardene Seed Reservation on September 15 and go through April; Lake Borgne-Mississippi Sound on October 1 until April 30; Coastal Study Area II on October 1 and close on April 1; Bay Junop would have a short 10 day season of October 1-10; Lake Mechant on October 11 and go through October 30; and Calcasieu Lake on October 15 until April 30. Staff was recommending leaving Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake closed. Hearing no comments from the Commission, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked for public comments.

Mr. Jakov Jurisich, members of the Plaquemines Oyster Association and Oyster Task Force, stated he was representing himself and others that accompanied him to the meeting. At the last Task Force meeting, the seasons were discussed but were not what they wanted. A disagreement was on Black Bay where those fishermen wanted the season to open on September 8 instead of October 1. Also with Lake Borgne, they wanted the season to open anytime after October 1.

Mr. Jurisich then stated reasons for suggesting the different openings were traveling time, temperature and survival rate of the oysters. He proposed opening Black Bay on September 8 due to infestations of mussels on the reefs.

Mr. Marty Mellarine, a year round oyster fisherman, stated Black Bay opens the first Wednesday after Labor Day yearly. If the season does not open until October 1, then they have no oysters to plant and would not have any work. He thought opening Lake Borgne October 1 was fine, but having extra time at the end messed him up also. With the different openings year after year, it did not allow him the opportunity to plan when he would work.

Mr. Michael Williams asked that the Black Bay area open September 8, open the Lake Borgne area October 1, and negotiate the closing dates.

Mr. Banks clarified that Black Bay area is located in the primary public grounds in Area II.

Mr. Jakov Jurisich stated when you talk about conservation, let's conserve where the best sampling was available, which is Coastal Study Area I within Lake Borgne. He felt if the season was delayed on Lake Borgne, this would benefit the Mississippi oyster fishermen instead of Louisiana's since it was less travel time for those fishermen. Mr. Jurisich asked that Black Bay open before Lake Borgne in order to kill mussels and work the reefs. He then asked Mr. Banks if the working the reefs was true. Mr. Banks stated any material that was broken on a reef that would help oyster larval was good which was what Mr. Jurisich was talking about. Commissioner Stone asked if there was a supply and demand reason for changing the seasons? Mr. Banks stated there was a biological reason behind setting the seasons as recommended. He added that the majority of the resource was located in Area I and staff recommended to the Oyster Task Force that it open on the first Wednesday after Labor Day. The Task Force voted unanimously to delay that opening until October 1. Mr. Banks stated delaying the opening from a biological standpoint was fine with the staff. With regards to Area II, from a biological stand, Mr. Banks did not feel comfortable opening that area first since the reefs were not producing the oysters they have in the past. Commissioner Stone asked if the resource could stand an early opening in Black Bay? Mr. Banks stated the resource in that area was down for the third straight year. Mr. John Roussel stated the resource in Area I, the area north of the MRGO, was up over 100 percent. The resource in the area south of the MRGO was down 35 percent and seed availability was down 6 percent. Mr. Roussel reminded everyone that Bay Gardene would open on September 15, which was close to Black Bay in order to work that resource. Mr. Jurisich pointed out again that Black Bay was infested with mussels and from a practical and economical standpoint, it makes a lot of sense to open the area

as soon as possible in order to clean the reefs. Also, he added that Bay Gardene may last only one day.

Mr. Michael Williams stated the quality of the oysters south of the MRGO was poor and the opening on September 8 would be good to transplant the oysters to the north and let them sit. The seeding needed to be done as early as possible and this would allow the beds to cultivate.

Mr. James Keef, a St. Bernard Parish oyster fisherman, stated he has always been against changing season openings since people plan around them. He agreed with the October 1 opening for the northern side of the MRGO but September 8 would be more appropriate for the south side. Mr. Keef stated he was an oyster planter and he needed those planted early so they could be fished when summer comes around. When seeding was pushed back a month, harvest would be delayed a month.

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked if there was a possibility of overharvesting if this was the only other area except for Vermilion Bay area that opened September 8? Mr. Banks answered yes, if there was a congregation of boats in an area you could overharvest. Ways to solve this would be to open more areas or to remove some seasons on the back end. Commissioner Stone asked if this was a resource under stress? Mr. Banks stated the data from the last three years indicated it was. Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Banks to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Stone made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Samanie. The motion passed with no opposition. Commissioner Stone commented that the Commission would work hard with the public when it did not threaten the resource. He felt this would threaten the resource and they could not bend since the Commission's job was to protect the resource.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION

2004/2005 Oyster Season on the Public Oyster Grounds
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the Public Oyster Seed Grounds may be fished starting on the first Wednesday following Labor Day which in 2004 is September 8, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the "Public Oyster Seed Grounds, Seed Reservations, and Tonging Areas" have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation has been determined, and

The oyster season for the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground as described in R.S. 56:435.1.1 will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 15, 2004 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005. The sack limit for Calcasieu Lake is set at 15 sacks per day as provided for in R.S. 56:435.1.1. However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures.

The following areas will remain closed for the 2004/2005 oyster season: the Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservations (as described in R.S. 56:434.E), the Public Oyster Seed Grounds located in portions of Lake Tambour, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, Deep Lake, and Barataria Bay (as described in LAC 76:VII.517), and the Sabine Lake public oyster tonging area (as described in R.S. 56:435.1).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action as necessary to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered.

The Secretary is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended, or may open areas if substantial oyster resources are located.

Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure began with Mr. Harry Blanchet stating the action would close a commercial deep water grouper season in Louisiana state waters. The major reason for the closure was to have compatible regulations with Federal waters adjacent to Louisiana which simplified enforcement of the regulations. A letter was received from National Marine Fisheries Service requesting that Louisiana state waters be closed. Hearing no comments, Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Blanchet to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Denmon made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner King seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

of deep-water grouper by legally licensed recreational fishermen during the open season for recreational harvest.

Effective with this closure, no person shall commercially harvest, possess, purchase, exchange, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, exchange, barter, trade or sell deep-water groupers whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters. Also effective with this closure, no person shall possess deep-water groupers in excess of a daily bag limit, which may only be in possession during the open recreational season. Nothing shall prohibit the possession or sale of fish by a commercial dealer if legally taken prior to the closure providing that all commercial dealers possessing deep-water groupers taken legally prior to the closure shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and close the commercial season for deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of deep-water groupers in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been notified by the National Marine Fisheries Service that the commercial quota for deep-water groupers was projected to be reached on July 15, 2004, and that the Federal season closure is necessary to ensure that the quota for deep-water grouper for 2004 is not exceeded.

Wayne J. Sagrera
Vice-Chairman

Vice-Chairman Sagrera asked Mr. Marty Bourgeois to handle the next item, a **Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season**. Mr. Bourgeois stated this action would fix opening and closing dates for the fall shrimp season in Zones 1 and 3. He then explained that Zone 2 opened August 2 by the Secretary through a Resolution adopted at the July 1 Commission Meeting. The action was based on early recruitment of significant numbers of juvenile white shrimp in the estuary. Other reasons for the early opening were favorable growing conditions existed, rapid growth took place and the presence of significant numbers of marketable-sized shrimp were evident. The Declaration of Emergency asked that Zone 1 open at official sunrise on August 16 and to open Zone 3 at official sunrise on August 9. Closing date for Zone 1 would be official sunset December 21 except for Breton and Chandeleur Sounds open waters which would close at 6 a.m., March 31, 2005. Zone 3 would also close at official sunset on December 21, 2004. The Department also asked the Commission to grant authority to the Secretary to

change the closing dates if data or problems indicate a need to do so. Vice-Chairman Sagrera understood that the Zone 2 opening was a good move since he has heard nothing but positive comments on it. He also commented that the catch and size were both good. Commissioner Samanie also felt the Department "hit a home run" on opening Zone 2. Vice-Chairman asked Mr. Bourgeois to read the Therefore Be It Resolved portion of the Resolution. Commissioner Samanie made a motion to accept the Resolution and it was seconded by Commissioner Mouton. The motion passed with no opposition.

(The full text of the Resolution and Declaration of Emergency are made a part of the record.)

RESOLUTION
2004 Fall Shrimp Season - Zones 1 and 3
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each calendar year for all inside waters by zone, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides that shrimp season openings shall be based on biological and technical data which indicate that marketable shrimp, in sufficient quantities, are available for harvest, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:498 provides that the minimum legal possession count on saltwater white shrimp shall average no more than 100 whole specimens to the pound (100 count per pound), except during the time period from October fifteenth through the third Monday in December when there shall be no possession count, and

WHEREAS, historical and current biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has indicated that white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 3 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the second week of August and white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 1 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the third week of August, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in the inside waters of Zones 1 and 3 is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the closing dates if biological or technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems

The Commissioners agreed to hold the **December 2004 Meeting** on Thursday, December 2, 2004, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Baton Rouge Headquarters.

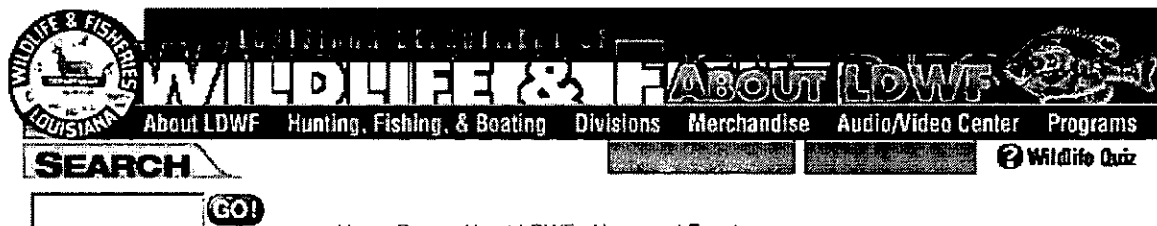
Vice-Chairman Sagrera then asked for **Public Comments** and none were heard.

There being no further business, Commissioner Denmon made a motion to **Adjourn** the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Mouton.

Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

DL:scf

DECLARATION



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2004-245 L.W.F.C. SETS TENTATIVE MIGRATORY WATERFOWL SEASONS

8/6/2004

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission voted to tentatively adopt proposed season dates, bag limits and shooting hours for the 2004-05 migratory waterfowl season. The dates will be ratified by a declaration of emergency from the commission unless the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mandates radical changes. Robert Helm, a biologist from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, presented the proposed dates to the commission.

A 60 day season was adopted for ducks and coots, except pintails and canvasbacks. In the West Zone, the first split will open on November 13 and close on December 5. The second split will open on December 18 and run until January 23. In the East Zone, the first split will go from November 20 to December 5. The second split will last from December 18 until January 30.

Pintail season in the west zone will begin from November 13-21 then pick up again from December 18 to January 7; east zone dates are November 20-28 and December 18 to January 7. Canvasback season is December 18 through January 16 statewide.

Youth waterfowl weekend in the west zone is November 6-7 and in the east zone November 13 14.

The daily bag limit on ducks is six and may include no more than four mallards (no more than two of which may be females), three mottled ducks, one black duck, two wood ducks, three scaup and two redheads. During the pintail and canvasback seasons, the daily bag limit is one. The daily bag limit on coots is 15. In addition to the daily bag limit for ducks, the daily bag limit for mergansers is five, only one of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

Light geese and white-fronted geese will have an 86-day statewide season. The first split will open on November 6 and close on December 5. The second split will open December 18 and close on February 11. The daily bag limit on light geese is 20, with no possession limit. The daily limit on white-fronted geese is two, with a possession limit of four.

The Statewide Conservation Order for Light Geese will open on December 6, and the first split will close on December 17. The second split will open on February 12 and close on March 13. During this time, only snow, blue and Ross' geese may be taken and daily bag and possession limits are eliminated. The use of electronic

calls and unplugged shotguns is permitted. Shooting hours during the order begin one-half hour before sunrise and extend until one-half hour after sunset.

The special-permit-required Canada Goose season will be January 15-23 in all of Louisiana, except for a small area in southwest Louisiana. The daily limit for Canada Geese is one and the possession limit is two. The special \$5 permit may be obtained from any license vendor.

Rails may be taken November 13 to January 12. For King and Clapper rails, the daily limit is 15 in the aggregate, with a possession limit of 30. For Sora and Virginia rails, the daily and possession limit is 25 in the aggregate.

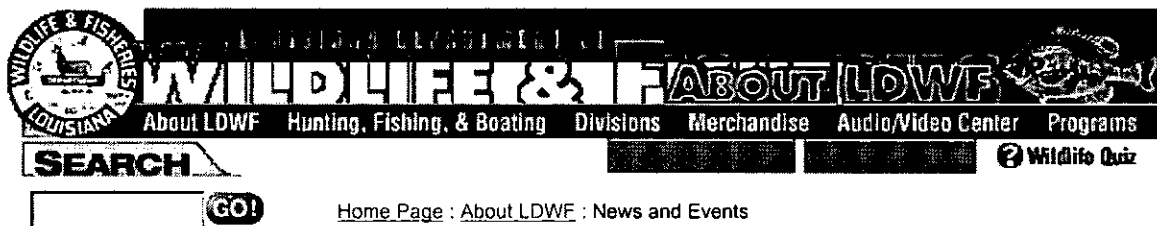
Gallinule season will open on November 13 and close on January 12. Daily bag limit is 15 and possession limit is 30.

Snipe may be taken November 6 to February 20. The bag limit is 8 and the possession limit is 16.

Shooting hours for migratory bird hunting, except for the Conservation Order, are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake Recreation Area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the Conservation Order, end at 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Robert Helm at 225/765-2358
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2004-247 COMMERCIAL FISHING FOR DEEP-WATER GROUPEL CLOSES IN LOUISIANA WATERS

8/6/2004

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission passed a declaration of emergency at their August 5 meeting to close the commercial fishery for the deep-water grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind), as requested by the National Marine Fisheries Service. NMFS and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council requested consistent regulations for Louisiana waters to enhance effectiveness and enforceability of regulations.

Regulations for the deep-water grouper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico include a commercial quota. Based on reported landings, the National Marine Fisheries Service closed the deep-water grouper commercial fishery in Federal waters off Louisiana, and requested that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries enact compatible rules.

At its August 5 meeting, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission closed the commercial season for deep-water groupers in Louisiana waters from 12 noon on August 8, 2004 until 12:01 a.m. January 1, 2005.

The commission also authorized LDWF Secretary Dwight Landreneau to change or modify opening and closing dates for commercial deep-water grouper seasons in Louisiana waters to comply with changes or modifications in season dates in federal waters. The commission's actions ensure that regulations in state waters will mirror regulations of the National Marine Fisheries Service for federally managed waters.

For more information, contact Harry Blanchet at 225/765-2889
hblanchet@wlf.louisiana.gov





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2004-249 L.W.F.C. SETS 2004-2005 OYSTER SEASONS 8/6/2004

Opening and closing dates for the 2004-05 oyster season on the public grounds were set at the August 5, 2004 meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

The oyster season in the Vermilion Bay Public Oyster Seed Ground as described in LAC 76:VII.507 and LAC 76:VII.509 will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 8, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Gardene Public Oyster Seed Reservation will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 15, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005. The oyster season in the primary public seed grounds east of the Mississippi River bordered on the north by the Louisiana/Mississippi state line and on the south by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, including that portion of Lake Borgne as described in LAC 76:VII.513, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005.

The oyster season in the primary public seed grounds east of the Mississippi River bordered on the north by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and on the south by the Mississippi River and North Pass, including the sacking only area of the public grounds which is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Point to Point Gardner to Grace Point at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Junop Public Oyster Seed Reservation will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on October 10, 2004.

The oyster season in the Lake Mechant Public Oyster Seed Grounds as described in LAC 76:VII.517, with the exception of the 2004 cultch plant within the following corners: 1) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes and 45.106 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 54.820 seconds west, 2) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 26.090 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 55.329 seconds west, 3) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 25.879 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 45.090 west, and 4) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 44.895 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 44.580 seconds west, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 11, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on October 31, 2004.

The oyster season for the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 15, 2004 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005. However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures.

The following areas will remain closed for the 2004/2005 oyster season: the Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation, the Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservation, the Public Oyster Seed Grounds located in portions of Lake Tambour, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, Deep Lake, and Barataria Bay (as described in LAC 76:VII.517) and the Sabine Lake Public Oyster TONGING Area.

The commission authorized Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries' Secretary Dwight Landreneau to take emergency action to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered. The secretary is also authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended and to open areas if significant oyster resources are located. Public notice of any opening, delay or closure of a season will be provided at least 72 hours prior to such action, unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns.

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2004-251 TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS PROPOSED

8/6/2004

The season dates for the 2005 Turkey Hunting Season were proposed to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at their August 5 meeting. Fred Kimmel, program manager for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, presented the notice of intent to the commission that contained the proposed dates, limits and regulations.

The suggested statewide opening date is March 25. The season in Area A would extend to April 24, Area B to April 17, and Area C to April 3. These are basic calendar adjustments from last year's framework. The daily bag limit is one gobbler, and the season limit is two gobblers.

Some realigning of area boundaries was included in the proposal. Caldwell Parish, west of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line, will be included in Area A. The Area A portion of Catahoula Parish will include the area west of Ouachita River and southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line and that portion lying east of LA 15. In Madison Parish, that portion of land lying east of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80, and the lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River will be included in Area A. All of Ascension and Iberville parishes east of the Mississippi River will be moved into Area B. Madison Parish will be removed from Area B. In Franklin Parish, the land east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562 will be included in Area C.

The notice of intent will be subject to a public comment period before being ratified by the commission.

For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923
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2004-246 COMMISSION ADJUSTS DOVE SEASON DATES

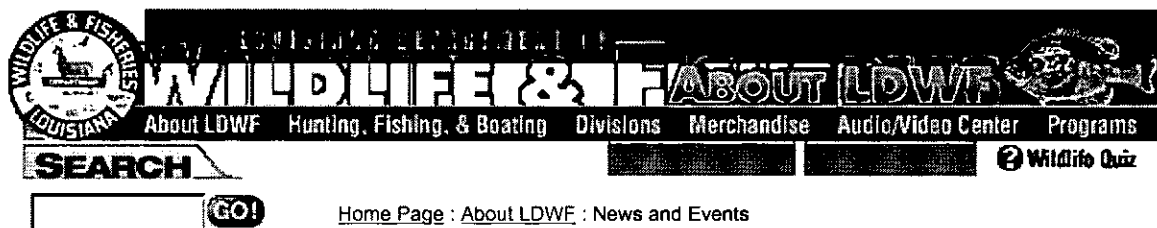
8/6/2004

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission voted to adjust the season dates for mourning doves in Louisiana. A declaration of emergency effectuated by the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will ratify the tentative dates.

The dates for the 70-day split season are as follows: the first split opens on Sept. 4 and closes on Sept. 12; the second split opens on Oct. 9 and closes on Nov. 14; and the third split opens on Dec. 18 and closes on Jan. 10. There is a 12-bird aggregate daily bag limit and a 24-bird aggregate possession limit.

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2004-248 AREA SIX DEER SEASON DATES RE-SET 8/6/2004

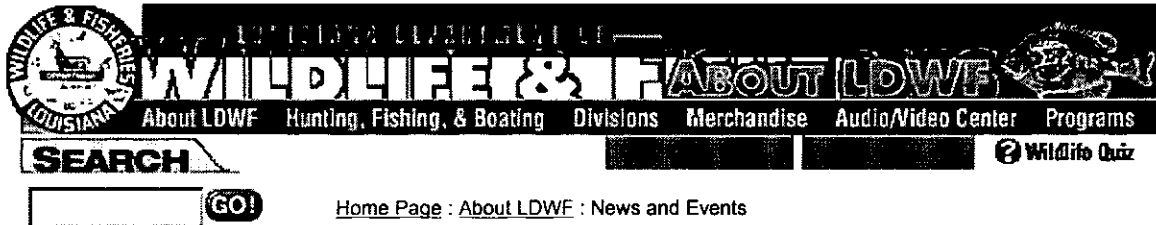
The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission voted to accept a declaration of emergency to adjust the Area 6 deer hunting season dates. The new dates reflect the original recommendations of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff. Because the action was taken as a declaration of emergency, the new dates will go into effect this hunting season.

The dates approved by the commission are as follows: Modern Firearms Still Hunt, November 20 through December 5; and Muzzleloader, December 6 through December 10.

Deer hunting Area 6 is located in central Louisiana. It consists of Ascension, Assumption, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Plaquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Martin and West Baton Rouge parishes. It also includes portions of Avoyelles, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, Livingston, Rapides, St. Landry, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne and West Feliciana parishes.

For more information, contact Thomas Gresham at 225/765-2923
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2004-250 L.W.F.C. SETS PERMANENT OPENING DATE FOR ALLIGATOR SEASON

8/6/2004

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission accepted a notice of intent to set a permanent opening date for the wild alligator season in Louisiana. The commission voted unanimously at its August 6 meeting to set the opening date as the first Wednesday of September. The season is to remain open for 30 days thereafter.

Noel Kinler, program manager for the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, presented the resolution to the commission. According to the notice, "historical and current information collected by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have indicated that the optimum time frame for the harvest of alligators is the month of September."

The commission set the opening of the 2004 wild alligator harvest season at its July meeting. This year's season will open on September 1, the first Wednesday of the month.

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2004-244 2004 LOUISIANA FALL SHRIMP SEASON OPENS IN ZONES 1 AND 3 8/5/2004

The fall inshore shrimp season will open in Shrimp Management Zone 1 at official sunrise Monday, August 16, 2004 and in Shrimp Management Zone 3 at official sunrise Monday August 9, 2004. The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission approved the season dates at its August 5 meeting, based upon recommendations presented by Marine Fisheries Division staff.

The closing date set by the commission for Zones 1 and 3 is official sunset Tuesday December 21, 2004 except for the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which will remain open until 6:00 a.m. March 31, 2005.

Zone 1 includes Louisiana waters from the Mississippi-Louisiana state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River. Zone 3 extends from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana-Texas state line.

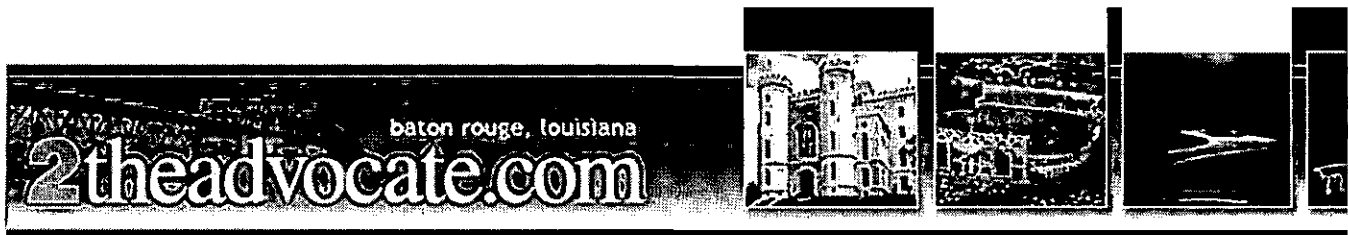
Acting on authority provided to Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Secretary Dwight Landreneau at the July 1 commission meeting, the Department Secretary opened Zone 2, that portion of Louisiana waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River to the western shore of Vermilion Bay on August 2, 2004 at official sunrise. Zone 2 will also close to shrimping at official sunset December 21, 2004.

The commission also authorized Secretary Landreneau to change the closing dates of the 2004 fall shrimp season if biological and technical data indicate a need to do so or if enforcement problems develop and to close all or parts of state inside and outside waters if significant numbers of small white shrimp are found in these waters.

According to LDWF trip ticket report data, Louisiana commercial white shrimp landings in 2003 totaled approximately 63.8 million pounds (heads-on weight), the third highest white shrimp landings year on record, and were valued at \$82.4 million.

For more information contact Martin Bourgeois at 225 765-2401 mjbourgeois@wlf.louisiana.gov





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Friday, Aug. 6

2theadvocate > Outdoors > Hunting dates dominate LWFC agenda 08/05/04

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2theadvocate Outdoors

Hunting dates dominate LWFC agenda

By JOE MACALUSO

jmacaluso@theadvocate.com

Advocate outdoors writer

Hotly debated hunting season dates for the state's Area 6 deer hunters, changes in the announced first split of the mourning dove season and voting on "tentative dates" for the state's duck and goose seasons tops a full agenda for today's Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission meeting.

State Wildlife Division administer David Moreland said the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will follow last week's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's recommendations for a 60-day season and a six-ducks-per-day limit for the 2004-05 duck season.

Louisiana is divided into East and West zones for duck hunters.

The West Zone, which includes all coastal parishes, usually gets a one-week-earlier opening day over the East Zone, which carries the balance of its allowable days into late January. It's the eighth year of a 60-day season.

Seven other agenda items deal with hunting.

In July, the LWFC broke with tradition and shortened the first split of the mourning dove season from the usual nine days to the three-day Labor Day weekend. The additional six days were added to the second split, a move that allowed dove hunters to take to the field for the Thanksgiving weekend in late November.

Dove hunters protested and forced the LWFC to reconsider the move. Moreland confirmed Wednesday that the seven-man commission will revisit the issue of the nine-day first split.

The LWFC at its July meeting also altered the Area 6 hunting dates by adding 14 days to the front of the firearms season, a move that shoved the muzzleloader-season opener to Nov. 6 and the modern firearms season from a Nov. 20 open to Nov. 13.

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Objections to the move came from several quarters. Smitty Smith, president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, filed a protest.

"By presenting and ratifying critical changes affecting the hunting public, at one meeting on one day, without prior notice or ample opportunity to comment, the Commission acted contrary to the spirit of public participation in the rulemaking process ..." Smith wrote.

Moreland said the LDWF will propose moving the Area 6 deer-hunting dates to the amended seasons the LWFC voted on in April. Those mean that the modern firearms season will open Nov. 20 and the first muzzleloader season will run Dec. 6-10. However, the Oct. 15-Feb. 15 archery season for deer will remain the same in Area 6 lands north of U.S. 90.

"We're trying to get back to the original days, because the dates (ratified at the July meeting) conflicted with the youth-only deer-hunting weekend," Moreland said.

Other hunting issues include the posting of Notice of Intent for the 2005 spring turkey hunting season, continued public comment on proposed changes in the Deer Management Assistance and the Louisiana Antlerless Deer Tag programs - the change will remove tags for antlerless deer from the six-deer-per-season regulations for DMAP and LADT hunters -- and a "discussion and review of the hunting regulations process."

Fishing items include a review of Atchafalaya Spillway black bass size limits, a Declaration of Emergency to close the commercial deep-water grouper season and an explanation of the recently enacted "Aquaculture Bill," which moves overall control of aquaculture farming operations from the LDWF to the Louisiana Department of Agriculture.

Other agenda items include a Notice of Intent to establish a permanent opening date for the state wild alligator season, Declarations of Emergency for the 2004-05 oyster season on public waterbottoms and the fall inshore shrimp season, and the introduction of new commission members Robert Samanie III of Houma and Earl King Jr. of Amelia.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. in the Louisiana Room on the first floor of LDWF headquarters on Quail Drive.

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COMMISSION MEETING
ROLL CALL

Thursday, August 5, 2004
Baton Rouge, LA
Wildlife and Fisheries Building

	Attended	Absent
<i>Arant</i> <i>Deer Season</i> Bill Busbice (Chairman)	—	✓
Y Terry Denmon	✓	—
Y Wayne Sagrera	✓	—
Y Jerry Stone	✓	—
N Henry Mouton	✓	—
Y Earl King	✓	—
Y Robert Samanie	✓	—

Mr. Chairman:

There are 6 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.
Secretary Landreneau is also present.

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
August 5, 2004
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season - Noel Kinler
5. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons - Robert Helm
6. Resolution - Dove Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
7. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs - Brandt Savoie - *not necessary*
8. Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin - Henry Mouton
9. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process - Henry Mouton
10. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill - Henry Mouton
11. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July - Keith LaCaze
12. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
13. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6 - Brandt Savoie - *not necessary*
14. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
15. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season - Fred Kimmel
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas - Patrick Banks
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure - Harry Blanchet

✓18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall
Inshore Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois

✓19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date

20. Public Comments

21. Adjournment

RESOLUTION

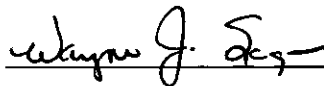
Wild Alligator Harvest Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

- WHEREAS, Louisiana has historically led the world in the production of crocodilians with value to alligator hunters of over \$181 million between 1972 and 2003, and
- WHEREAS, the Louisiana ranching program (wild egg collection) largely supports a statewide alligator farming program, producing approximately 200,000 hides per year, and
- WHEREAS, the comprehensive Louisiana alligator management program contributes significantly to conserving alligators and their wetland ecosystems, and
- WHEREAS, the harvest of this renewable resource is important in providing supplemental income to citizens of the state while furnishing an essential management tool to reduce nuisance wildlife problems, foster wetlands biodiversity, and provide cultural and economic benefits to the citizens of the state, and
- WHEREAS, regulated alligator sustainable use management programs developed during the past 30 seasons have built an industry that is unique and exceptional, and
- WHEREAS, historical and current information collected by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries have indicated that the optimum time frame for the harvest of alligators is the month of September, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the season for taking alligators in the wild to open annually on the first Wednesday of September and will remain open for 30 days thereafter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to delay, extend, close or reopen this season based on technical data or if enforcement problems develop.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Notice of Intent to establish the open season for the taking of wild alligators is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wayne J. Sagrera", is written over a horizontal line.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby advertise its intent to establish the open season for the taking of wild alligators.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part V. Wild Quadrupeds and Wild Birds

Chapter 7. Alligators

§701. Alligator Regulations

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish regulations governing the harvest of wild populations of alligators and alligator eggs, raising and propagation of farmed alligators, tanning of skins and regulations governing the selling of hides, alligator parts and farm raised alligators. The administrative responsibility for these alligator programs shall rest with the Department Secretary; the Assistant Secretary, Office of Wildlife; and the Fur and Refuge Division.

1. - 6. ***

7. Open Season, Open Areas, and Quotas.

a. Open seasons are as follows:

i. The ~~general open~~ season for taking alligators in the wild ~~may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting~~ shall open on the first

Wednesday of September and will remain open for 30 days thereafter.

The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend, delay, or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

* * *

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115, R.S. 56:259, R.S. 56:262, R.S. 56:263 and R.S. 56:280.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 16:1070 (December 1990), amended LR 17:892 (September 1991), LR 19:215 (February 1993), LR 20:321 (March 1994), LR 26:1492 (July 2000), LR 28:1996 (September 2002), LR 30: , LR 30: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed Rule to: Philip Bowman, Fur & Refuge Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, prior to Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding

Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, public hearings have been held to discuss the status of waterfowl, including ducks, coots, and geese in Washington DC, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing waterfowl season framework have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and


WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for waterfowl including season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for waterfowl within the constraints of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on this date, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby tentatively adopt the attached season dates, bag limits and shooting hours, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these tentative dates will be ratified by Declaration of Emergency unless significant changes are mandated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to take any and all steps necessary on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate these seasons as a Declaration of Emergency; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these dates will be forwarded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as regulations set for Louisiana's 2004-2005 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.



Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

TENTATIVE SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR DUCKS, COOTS AND GEESE, 2004-05

DUCKS AND COOTS: (EXCEPT PINTAIL AND CANVASBACK)

West Zone: (60 days) Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (23 days)
 Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 23 (Sun.) (37 days)

East Zone: (60 days) Nov. 20 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (16 days)
(Including Catahoula Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 30 (Sun.) (44 days)
Lake)

Pintail Season Dates (30 days)

West Zone: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Nov. 21 (Sun.) (9 days)
 Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 7 (Fri) (21 days)
East Zone: Nov. 20 (Sat.) - Nov. 28 (Sat.) (9 days)
 Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 7 (Fri.) (21 days)

Canvasback Season Dates (30 days)

Statewide Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Jan. 16 (Sun.)

Youth Waterfowl Weekend - Nov. 6-7 in West Zone, Nov. 13-14 in East Zone

Daily Bag Limits: The daily bag limit on ducks is 6 and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 3 mottled ducks, 1 black duck, 2 wood ducks, 3 scaup, and 2 redheads. During the specified 30-day seasons for pintails and canvasbacks and during youth hunts the daily bag is 1. Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers - The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit - The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

GEESE:

LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE and ROSS'S) and WHITE-FRONTED GEESE

STATEWIDE: (86 days) Nov. 6 (Sat.) - Dec. 5 (Sun.) (30 days)
 Dec. 18 (Sat.) - Feb. 11 (Fri.) (56 days)

Daily bag limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross's): 20

Possession limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross's): None

Daily Limit on white-fronted geese:	2
Possession Limit on white-fronted geese:	4

CANADA GEESE: CLOSED IN THE AREA DESCRIBED BELOW

Jan. 15 (Sat.) - Jan. 23 (Sun.) (9 days)

Daily Limit on Canada geese:	1
Possession limit on Canada geese:	2

The Canada Goose Season will be open statewide except for a portion of southwest Louisiana. The closed area is described as follows:

Beginning at the Texas State Line, proceeding east along Hwy. 82 to the Calcasieu Ship Channel, then north along the Calcasieu Ship Channel to its junction with the Intracoastal Canal, then east along the Intracoastal Canal to its juncture with LA Hwy. 82, then south along LA Hwy. 82 to its juncture with Parish Road 3147, then south and east along Parish Road 3147 to Freshwater Bayou Canal, then south to the Gulf of Mexico, then west along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico to the Texas State Line, then north to the point of beginning at LA Hwy. 82.

A special permit shall be required to participate in the Canada Goose Season. A permit is required of everyone, regardless of age, and a non-refundable \$5 administrative fee will be charged. This permit may be obtained from any license vendor.

CONSERVATION ORDER FOR LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE AND ROSS'S)

STATEWIDE:	Dec. 6 (Mon.) - Dec. 17 (Fri.)	(12 days)
	Feb. 12 (Sat.) - Mar. 13 (Sun.)	(30 days)

Only snow, blue and Ross's geese may be taken under the terms of the Conservation Order, which allows the use of electronic calls and unplugged shotguns and eliminates the daily bag and possession limits. During the Conservation Order, shooting hours begins one-half hour before sunrise and extends until one-half hour after sunset.

RAILS: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)

KING AND CLAPPER: Daily bag limit 15 in the aggregate, Possession 30.

SORA AND VIRGINIA: Daily bag and possession 25 in the aggregate.

GALLINULES: Nov. 13 (Sat.) - Jan. 12 (Wed.) (61 days)
Daily bag limit 15, Possession limit 30

SNIPES: Nov. 6 (Sat.) - Feb. 20 (Sun.) (107 days)
Daily bag limit 8, Possession limit 16

Shooting Hours: one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake Recreation Area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the Conservation Order, end at 2 p.m.

C O V E R

S H E E T



FAX

To: Wildlife & Fisheries Commissioners

Fax #:

Subject: 2004-05 Duck Season

Date: August 3, 2004

Pages: 2, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

THIS IS BEING SENT TO YOU ON ROBERT HELM'S BEHALF:

Commissioners: The attached contains the waterfowl season recommendations from the Wildlife Division. I have discussed these with David Moreland and Parke Moore, our new Assistant Secretary, along with Secretary Landreneau. Dwight asked that I send these recommendations along to you for your concurrence. Should you have any questions I will be in between now and the Commission meeting so give me a call. 225/765-2358.

From the desk of...

Susan Falcon

La. Dept. Of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

225-765-2806
Fax: 225-765-0948

WILDLIFE DIVISION WATERFOWL SEASON RECOMMENDATIONS, 2004-05

DUCKS- 60 days (except Pintail and Canvasback):

WEST ZONE

Nov. 13 - Dec. 5 (23 days)

Dec. 18 - Jan. 23 (37 days)

EAST ZONE

Nov. 20 - Dec. 5 (16 days)

Dec. 18 - Jan. 30 (44 days)

Youth Weekend: West Zone - Nov. 6-7
East Zone - Nov. 13-14

The Daily Bag and Possession Limits for Ducks and Geese is the same as last year. **The season length for Pintails and Canvasbacks will be only 30 days** (compared to 60 days for other ducks). The daily bag limit for Pintail and Canvasback is one and possession limit two.

Pintail Season: West Zone: Nov. 13 - Nov. 21 (9 days) and Dec. 18 - Jan. 7 (21 days)

Pintail Season: East Zone: Nov. 20 - Nov. 28 (9 days) and Dec. 18 - Jan. 7 (21 days)

Canvasback Season: Statewide: Dec. 18 - Jan. 16 (30 days)

All Goose Seasons Statewide

LIGHT GEESE: (Snow, Blue and Ross's) Nov. 6 - Dec. 5 (30 days) and Dec. 18 - Feb. 11 (56 days)

WHITE-FRONTED GEESE: Nov. 6 - Dec. 5 (30 days) and Dec. 18 - Feb. 11 (56 days)

CANADA GEESE: Jan. 15 - 23 (9 days)

CONSERVATION ORDER FOR LIGHT GEESE: Dec. 6 - Dec. 17 (12 days) and Feb. 12 - Mar. 13 (30 days)

Automatic Log

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Diagnostic</u>
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Mouton	No answer	00/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:41A	00:00:00	002060000000
Busbice	OK	02/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:41A	00:00:44	002566030022
King	OK	02/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:43A	00:00:44	002566030022
Denmon	OK	02/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:44A	00:00:46	002566030022
Sagrera	OK	02/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:45A	00:00:47	002566030022
Samanie	OK	02/02	Sent	Aug-03	11:47A	00:00:45	002566030022

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RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission meeting in Baton Rouge, LA August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, public hearings in Washington, D.C. have been held on early migratory bird season regulations that include dove, snipe, rail, gallinule, woodcock and teal, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing early migratory bird season frameworks have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory species that include season dates, bag limits, and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the statutory responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for these migratory species within constraints established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, and

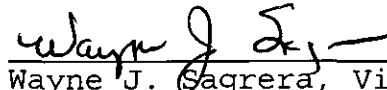
WHEREAS, this Commission adopted tentative season dates for early migratory birds at the July 1, 2004 Commission meeting, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Commission to modify that portion of the season selection relative to doves. This is based upon historical season selection including: (1) a 9-day segment for September that was developed as a compromise for the 70-day seasons when zoning was no longer selected, (2) an early October opening for the 2nd split, (3) a tradition of an ending season date usually January 6th or later, and (4) subsequent public comments,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Commission does hereby modify its July 1, 2004 resolution to adopt those tentative season dates and times for doves which are attached to and made part of this resolution, subject to the following stipulations:

- (1) The Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to take any and all steps necessary on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate these seasons, including promulgation as a Declaration of Emergency and preparation and transmission of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government; and
- (2) If significant changes occur as a result of changes in the framework established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or for other reasons, the Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to alter the attached seasons based upon the recommendations of Department staff, supported by biological and technical data; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Secretary Dwight Landreneau is hereby directed to compile a single document containing all tentative season dates for early season migratory birds as modified by this resolution.



Wayne J. Sagerera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004-05 Mourning Doves Hunting Season Dates and Times

Statewide, Split Season, 70-day/12-bird aggregate daily bag and 24-bird aggregate possession

<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>	<i>Days</i>
September 4 (Sat.)	September 12 (Sun.)	9 days
October 9 (Sat.)	November 14 (Sun.)	37 days
December 18 (Sat.)	January 10 (Mon.)	24 days

Eurasian Collared-Doves and Ringed Turtle-Doves--Eurasian collared-doves and ringed turtle-doves may only be hunted or taken during the open mourning dove season. There is no bag limit on Eurasian collared-doves or ringed turtle-doves provided that a fully feathered wing and head remain attached to the carcass of the bird. Fully dressed Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle-doves (those without a fully feathered wing and head naturally attached to the carcass) shall be included in the daily bag limit for mourning doves.

Shooting Hours: **Mourning Dove:** One-half hour before sunrise to sunset except on September 4&5, October 9&10, and December 18&19 when shooting hours will be 12:00 noon to sunset.

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004-05 Mourning Dove Seasons on Sandy Hollow
and Elbow Slough WMA's

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rules:

Whereas this Commission previously established mourning dove seasons on Sandy Hollow WMA and Elbow Slough WMA with dates that, based upon this Commission's action on July 1, 2004, would fall outside of the framework of seasons for the statewide mourning dove seasons, the Department has recommended the following dates for the mourning dove season on these two WMAs: Sandy Hollow WMA - September 4-6; Elbow Slough WMA - September 4-6 and October 16-November 7. Therefore, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates:

Mourning Dove Season on Sandy Hollow - September 4-6, 2004

Mourning Dove Season on Elbow Slough - September 4-6 and October 16-November 7, 2004

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to

the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

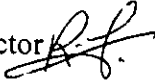


LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."

July 30, 2004



To: Members, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
From: Randy P. Lanctot, Executive Director 
RE: Proposed LWFC Action Concerning Atchafalaya Basin Black Bass Minimum Length

It is our understanding that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will consider adopting a Notice of Intent to remove the minimum size limit of 14 inches for black bass harvested in the Atchafalaya Basin at its August 5th meeting. Based on our observation since the 14-inch minimum was imposed in 1992, there are some anglers who favor the limit, thinking that it increases the opportunity to catch fish and the potential for catching larger fish, while other anglers would like to be able to keep a few fish to take home and eat without having to fish all day for one or two "keepers." This question has been a point of contention between anglers ever since the Atchafalaya Basin fish population several years ago was declared fully recovered from the large fish kills caused by the effects of Hurricane Andrew.

A few years ago the Louisiana Wildlife Federation proposed what we feel is an equitable way to address the desires of anglers to harvest a few fish to bring home while not allowing what some might feel is an excessive removal of fish from the system. That is simply to allow the harvest of up to 5 black bass under 14 inches in length, and up to 5 of 14 inches in length and over, within the general statewide 10-fish daily bag limit that applies to black bass in the Atchafalaya Basin. The LWF believes such a regulation would adequately conserve the resource while accommodating the desires and interests of a greater number of the users of the Atchafalaya Basin. I have attached for your review a resolution proposing such a concept that was adopted by the LWF board of directors.

Your consideration of this idea is appreciated. Please feel welcome to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

C Mr. Dwight Landreneau
Mr. John Roussel



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."



BOARD RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: ADJUSTING THE BLACK BASS HARVEST REGULATIONS, WITH RESPECT TO LENGTH LIMIT, IN THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN

WHEREAS, in response to extensive fish kills in the late summer of 1992, caused by oxygen depletion in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, a minimum length limit of 14 inches was imposed on the harvest of black bass in the Atchafalaya Basin (Basin), and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the length limit was to allow black bass to spawn at least once before being harvested in an effort to speed the recovery of black bass in the Basin, and

WHEREAS, the sustained high water in the Basin in 1993 (Missouri Flood) provided ideal habitat conditions to maximize spawning and the survival of fry and fingerlings of bass and other species, and encouraged a rapid growth and the "restocking" of the Basin, and

WHEREAS, the black bass population in the Basin has fully recovered from the 1992 fish kills and it is appropriate to review the 14-inch minimum length limit for efficacy relative to sustaining the growth and productivity of black bass in the basin, and

WHEREAS, because the Atchafalaya Basin is extraordinarily productive of fish due to the annual cycle of flooding that provides good spawning habitat as well as abundant forage for growing fish, it is unnecessary under normal conditions to impose a length limit in order to maintain reproduction and growth of a healthy population of black bass in the Basin, and

WHEREAS, 2002 was a normal high water year in the Basin, and even after the preceding 3 years of drought, small black bass are so abundant in the Basin as to be a nuisance to anglers who are targeting other species or are attempting to bring a few "keeper" fish to the scale in a fishing tournament, and

WHEREAS, during the normal low water time in the Basin, black bass are confined to bayous and channels where the competition is fierce for forage and where they are vulnerable to larger predators, and

WHEREAS, there is a preponderance of small bass below the length limit in the Basin and thinning the smaller black bass out of the system should reduce competition and may improve the growth rate, and

WHEREAS, smaller black bass make better table fare than the larger fish and are less likely to be contaminated with mercury and other toxins in the environment than older fish.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation urges the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to review the status of the black bass population in the Atchafalaya Basin, and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to consider the adjustment of the black bass harvest regulations in the Basin to allow the harvest of up to 5 black bass under 14 inches in length and up to 5 black bass 14 inches in length and over, within the 10-fish creel limit.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation on October 8, 2002 at the Fall Board Meeting held at the LDWF Outdoor Education Center in Woodworth, Louisiana.



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."

July 30, 2004



To: Members, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

From: Randy P. Lanctot, Executive Director *R.P. Lanctot*

RE: Proposed LWFC Action Concerning Atchafalaya Basin Black Bass Minimum Length

It is our understanding that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission will consider adopting a Notice of Intent to remove the minimum size limit of 14 inches for black bass harvested in the Atchafalaya Basin at its August 5th meeting. Based on our observation since the 14-inch minimum was imposed in 1992, there are some anglers who favor the limit, thinking that it increases the opportunity to catch fish and the potential for catching larger fish, while other anglers would like to be able to keep a few fish to take home and eat without having to fish all day for one or two "keepers." This question has been a point of contention between anglers ever since the Atchafalaya Basin fish population several years ago was declared fully recovered from the large fish kills caused by the effects of Hurricane Andrew.

A few years ago the Louisiana Wildlife Federation proposed what we feel is an equitable way to address the desires of anglers to harvest a few fish to bring home while not allowing what some might feel is an excessive removal of fish from the system. That is simply to allow the harvest of up to 5 black bass under 14 inches in length, and up to 5 of 14 inches in length and over, within the general statewide 10-fish daily bag limit that applies to black bass in the Atchafalaya Basin. The LWF believes such a regulation would adequately conserve the resource while accommodating the desires and interests of a greater number of the users of the Atchafalaya Basin. I have attached for your review a resolution proposing such a concept that was adopted by the LWF board of directors.

Your consideration of this idea is appreciated. Please feel welcome to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Bow shop owner

C Mr. Dwight Landreneau
Mr. John Roussel

GIVE A MAN A FISH, AND YOU
FEED HIM FOR A DAY.

TEACH A MAN TO FISH, AND
YOU GET RID OF HIM
FOR WEEKENDS.



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."



BOARD RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: ADJUSTING THE BLACK BASS HARVEST REGULATIONS, WITH RESPECT TO LENGTH LIMIT, IN THE ATCHAFALAYA BASIN

WHEREAS, in response to extensive fish kills in the late summer of 1992, caused by oxygen depletion in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, a minimum length limit of 14 inches was imposed on the harvest of black bass in the Atchafalaya Basin (Basin), and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the length limit was to allow black bass to spawn at least once before being harvested in an effort to speed the recovery of black bass in the Basin, and

WHEREAS, the sustained high water in the Basin in 1993 (Missouri Flood) provided ideal habitat conditions to maximize spawning and the survival of fry and fingerlings of bass and other species, and encouraged a rapid growth and the "restocking" of the Basin, and

WHEREAS, the black bass population in the Basin has fully recovered from the 1992 fish kills and it is appropriate to review the 14-inch minimum length limit for efficacy relative to sustaining the growth and productivity of black bass in the basin, and

WHEREAS, because the Atchafalaya Basin is extraordinarily productive of fish due to the annual cycle of flooding that provides good spawning habitat as well as abundant forage for growing fish, it is unnecessary under normal conditions to impose a length limit in order to maintain reproduction and growth of a healthy population of black bass in the Basin, and

WHEREAS, 2002 was a normal high water year in the Basin, and even after the preceding 3 years of drought, small black bass are so abundant in the Basin as to be a nuisance to anglers who are targeting other species or are attempting to bring a few "keeper" fish to the scale in a fishing tournament, and

WHEREAS, during the normal low water time in the Basin, black bass are confined to bayous and channels where the competition is fierce for forage and where they are vulnerable to larger predators, and

WHEREAS, there is a preponderance of small bass below the length limit in the Basin and thinning the smaller black bass out of the system should reduce competition and may improve the growth rate, and

WHEREAS, smaller black bass make better table fare than the larger fish and are less likely to be contaminated with mercury and other toxins in the environment than older fish,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation urges the Louisiana--
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to review the status of the black bass population in the Atchafalaya Basin, and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to consider the adjustment of the black bass harvest regulations in the Basin to allow the harvest of up to 5 black bass under 14 inches in length and up to 5 black bass 14 inches in length and over, within the 10-fish creel limit.

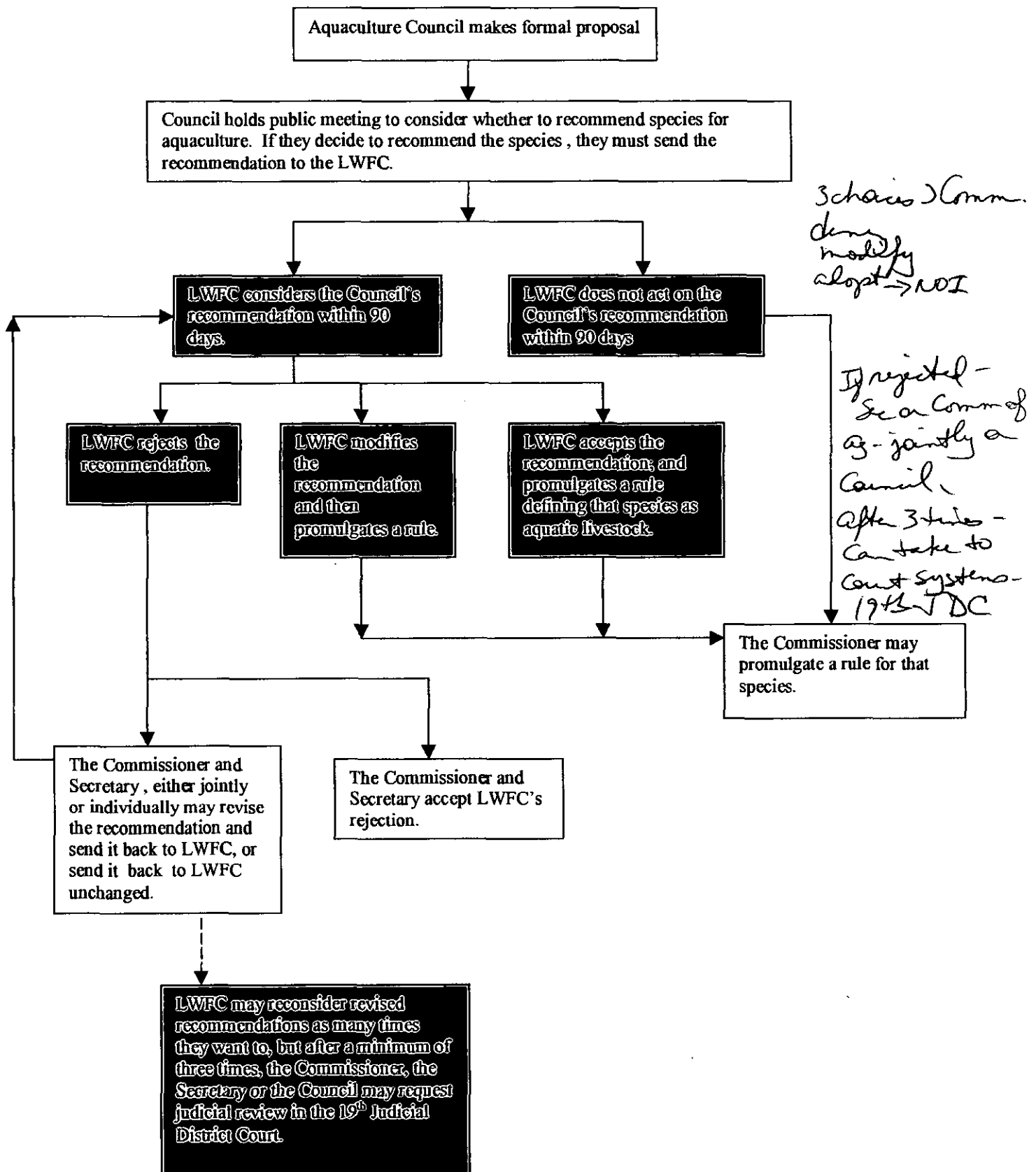
Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation on October 8, 2002 at the Fall Board Meeting held at the LDWF Outdoor Education Center in Woodworth, Louisiana.

The Louisiana Aquacultural Development Act of 2004

- Defines "aquatic livestock" as finfish species and crawfish raised, managed, or harvested within a constructed impoundment. It doesn't include largemouth bass, spotted bass, or black or white crappie.
- Creates an Aquaculture Council (Council) within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Commissioner).
 - The Council consists of 17 members appointed by the Commissioner and shall include the Commissioner and the Secretary of Wildlife and Fisheries (Secretary).
 - The Council is chaired by the Commissioner.
 - Its duties ^{of the Council} include:
 - Developing and advising regarding regulatory framework; and
 - Recommending species to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (LWFC) that are suitable to be aquatic livestock based on a "scientific risk assessment;" and
 - Recommending requirements for licenses and permits and
 - Holding hearing on violations of statutes and rule.
 - The Council is authorized to hire unclassified staff, at least a director and assistant.
- The Commissioner's duties include:
 - Adopting implementing regulations under APA.
 - Administering and enforcing statute and implementing regulations.
 - Administering finances for the program.
 - Conducting inspections and investigations.
 - Seeking injunctive or other civil relief for violations.
 - Instituting civil proceedings to enforce orders and rulings.
 - Issuing stop orders to prevent violations.
 - Proceeding with rule making in the event the LWFC fails to take action within 90 days of the Council's submission of a written recommendation for "aquatic livestock."
- LWFC duties include:
 - Consider the recommendation of the Council or the revised recommendations of the Commissioner, the Secretary, or the Council relative to whether a species is suitable for aquaculture. The LWFC may disapprove a recommendation of the Council, Commissioner or Secretary or approve it and adopt a rule deeming the species suitable for aquaculture.
- ^{Some} Minimum criteria to be used by the LDWF, the LWFC, and the Council to determine whether or not a species is suitable for aquaculture
 - Whether the species is established in the state;
 - Whether production and marketing is viable and sustainable
 - Whether the species can reasonably ^{be} controlled from escaping
 - Its potential to harm the "natural resources of the state";
 - Whether the LDWF can ensure enforcement of game fish rules at least as well as they could prior to 01 July 2004.

- **Enforcement**
 - DAF has authority to investigate;
 - DAF has access to facilities and records during “normal working hours”;
 - LDWF and DAF are authorized to jointly inspect facilities. The two agencies are directed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding to delineate the procedures they will follow.

How a species becomes aquatic livestock



Regular Session, 2004

ACT No. 865

HOUSE BILL NO. 1192

BY REPRESENTATIVE TOWNSEND AND SENATORS ELLINGTON AND SMITH

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 36:802.6 and R.S. 44:4.1(B)(1) and to enact Part XVI of Chapter 5 of Title 3 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 3:559.1 through 559.14, and R.S. 36:629(Q), relative to aquacultural development; to create the Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council; to provide for the membership, organization, powers, and duties of the Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council; to provide for the powers of the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry; to provide relative to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission; to require certain aquatic producers to obtain a license or permit; to provide for fees for the issuance of such license or permit; to establish criteria for inspecting licensed facilities; to provide for the deposit and disbursement of fees and penalties; to enumerate violations; to provide for investigations of facilities; to provide civil penalties for violations; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Part XVI of Chapter 5 of Title 3 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 3:559.1 through 559.14, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

PART XVI. LOUISIANA AQUACULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT

§559.1. Short title

This Part shall be known and may be referred to as the "Louisiana Aquacultural Development Act".

1 §559.2. Legislative findings; purpose

2 A. The legislature hereby finds and declares that a substantial production of
3 aquatic livestock in private, constructed facilities occurs yearly in Louisiana, which
4 substantially contributes to the vitality of Louisiana's economy. The raising and
5 harvesting of aquatic livestock is substantially similar to and utilizes similar
6 production practices as are used in traditional agriculture. Therefore, the legislature
7 finds that the raising and harvesting of aquatic livestock in a private, constructed
8 environment is agriculture and that aquatic livestock in such an environment is not
9 wildlife.

10 B. No unified program for overseeing and coordinating modern, sustainable
11 aquacultural production exists in Louisiana. The development of a modern
12 aquaculture industry through a regulatory program that allows for the development
13 of current and future aquacultural production, while at the same time protecting the
14 native fish and aquatic life and wildlife and their natural habitat, will be beneficial
15 to the economy of this state.

16 C. The purpose of this Part is to provide a regulatory framework for the
17 orderly development and maintenance of a modern aquacultural segment of
18 Louisiana's agriculture industry and for the promotion of aquaculture and
19 aquacultural products.

20 §559.3. Terms defined

21 As used in this Part, the following terms shall have the meanings given to
22 them except where the context expressly indicates otherwise:

23 (1) "Aquaculture" means the producing, raising, managing, harvesting, or
24 marketing of aquatic livestock under controlled conditions.

25 (2) "Aquatic livestock" means finfish species and crawfish produced, raised,
26 managed, or harvested within or from a constructed impoundment in compliance
27 with rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part. "Aquatic livestock" shall not
28 include those species of fish excluded from this Part by R.S. 3:559.14.

1 (3) "Aquatic producer" means any person engaged in producing, raising,
2 managing, harvesting, or marketing aquatic livestock.

3 (4) "Commissioner" means the Louisiana commissioner of agriculture and
4 forestry.

5 (5) "Council" means the Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council.

6 (6) "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and
7 Forestry.

8 (7) "Facility" means any piece of property that contains a constructed
9 impoundment or other area where aquatic livestock are produced, raised, managed,
10 harvested, or marketed.

11 (8) "Impoundment" means any private, constructed pond, lake, reservoir,
12 tank, cage, or other means of containment that has no inlet from or outlet to any
13 public waters.

14 (9) "Person" means an individual, partnership, firm, company, association,
15 corporation, limited liability company, and any other legal entity or group of persons.
16 §559.4. Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council; creation; organization

17 A. The Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council is hereby created and
18 shall be within the department. The council shall be domiciled in Baton Rouge,
19 Louisiana.

20 B. The council shall consist of members appointed by the commissioner, and
21 confirmed by the Senate, as follows:

22 (1) One member shall be a fishery biologist nominated by the Louisiana State
23 University AgCenter.

24 (2) One member shall be a fishery biologist nominated by the Louisiana
25 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

26 (3) One member shall be an aquatic biologist nominated by the University
27 of Louisiana System.

28 (4) One member shall be an active aquatic producer appointed from a list of
29 three persons nominated by the Louisiana Farm Bureau.

1 ~~(5) One member shall be an active aquatic producer appointed from a list of~~
2 ~~three persons nominated by the Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board.~~

3 ~~(6) One member shall be an active aquatic producer appointed from a list of~~
4 ~~three persons nominated by the Louisiana Catfish Farmers Association.~~

5 ~~(7) One member shall be an active aquatic producer appointed from a list of~~
6 ~~three persons nominated by the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.~~

7 ~~(8) One member shall be a Louisiana vocational agriscience teacher~~
8 ~~appointed from a list of three persons nominated by the Louisiana Vocational~~
9 ~~Agriscience Teachers' Association.~~

10 ~~(9) One member shall be a consumer appointed from the public at large.~~

11 ~~(10) One member shall be appointed from the Department of Economic~~
12 ~~Development.~~

13 ~~(11) One member shall be an active game fish grower appointed from a list~~
14 ~~of three persons nominated by the Louisiana Game Fish Grower's Association.~~

15 ~~(12) One member shall be an active member of the Louisiana Bass Anglers~~
16 ~~and Sportsmen Society appointed from a list of three persons nominated by that~~
17 ~~organization.~~

18 ~~(13) One member shall be an active member of the Coastal Conservation~~
19 ~~Association of Louisiana appointed from a list of three persons nominated by that~~
20 ~~organization.~~

21 ~~(14) One member shall be an active aquatic producer appointed from a list~~
22 ~~of three persons nominated by the Louisiana Crawfish Producers Association.~~

23 ~~(15) One member shall be appointed from a list of three persons nominated~~
24 ~~by the Southern University Agricultural Center.~~

25 ~~C. The commissioner and the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and~~
26 ~~Fisheries, or their respective designees, shall serve ex officio and shall have all rights~~
27 ~~and responsibilities of appointed members, including being counted for purposes of~~
28 ~~constituting a quorum.~~

1 D. At the same time and in the same manner, the commissioner shall appoint
2 one alternate for each appointed member. Each alternate shall possess the same
3 qualifications as the member for whom he is appointed as an alternate. When a
4 member is unable to be present at any meeting of the council, his alternate shall serve
5 in his place. Any alternate serving in the place of a member shall be deemed to be
6 a member for purposes of that meeting and shall exercise all of the powers vested by
7 law in the member, including the right to vote.

8 E. Appointed members and alternates shall serve terms concurrent with the
9 term of the commissioner making the appointment.

10 F. A vacancy in the office of a member or an alternate shall be filled in the
11 same manner as the original appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.
12 If any board or association named in this Section ceases to exist or does not submit
13 a full list of names to the commissioner within thirty days after he requests a list of
14 names, then the commissioner may appoint any otherwise qualified person not
15 already appointed to the council.

16 G. A majority of the members of the council shall constitute a quorum.

17 H. Members of the council shall not receive any salary for performing their
18 duties as members.

19 I. The council shall meet as needed at the call of the chairman.

20 J. The council, by a vote of a majority of the members, may expel a member
21 or alternate for good cause shown. Good cause shall include but shall not be limited
22 to three consecutive unexcused absences. The expulsion of a member or alternate
23 creates a vacancy in that office.

24 §559.5. Officers and employees

25 A. The commissioner or his designee shall serve as chairman of the council.
26 The members shall elect such other officers as they deem necessary.

27 B. The council shall employ a director and assistant director who shall be
28 appointed by the council, subject to the approval of the commissioner. The director
29 and assistant director shall be in the unclassified service. The commissioner is

1 authorized to employ such other personnel necessary for the efficient and proper
2 administration of this Part. All employees of the council shall be under the direction
3 and supervision of the commissioner.

4 §559.6. Powers

5 A. The council shall have the following powers and responsibilities:

6 (1) To develop and advise on the implementation of a regulatory framework
7 for the orderly development and maintenance of a modern, sustainable aquacultural
8 segment of Louisiana's agriculture industry and to promote aquaculture and
9 aquaculture products.

10 (2) To determine and recommend to the commissioner and the Wildlife and
11 Fisheries Commission, based on a scientific risk assessment, which species of aquatic
12 livestock are suitable for aquacultural production in Louisiana.

13 (3) To recommend to the commissioner criteria for requiring licenses and
14 permits and for granting or denying licenses and permits issued pursuant to this Part.

15 (4) To hold hearings on alleged violations of the provisions of this Part or of
16 the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.

17 (5) To advise the commissioner on the civil penalties to be imposed or the
18 injunctive or other civil relief to be sought for violations of the provisions of this Part
19 or of the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.

20 (6) To perform such other advisory functions as the commissioner may
21 assign to the council.

22 B. The commissioner shall have the following powers:

23 (1) Adopt rules and regulations as are necessary to implement the provisions
24 of this Part, including regulations establishing the criteria for granting or denying
25 licenses and permits, based upon recommendations made by the council. All rules
26 and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of this Part and
27 promulgated in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et
28 seq.

1 (2) ~~Administer and enforce the provisions of this Part and the rules and~~
2 ~~regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

3 (3) ~~Collect, administer, and disburse the proceeds of all fees, interest,~~
4 ~~penalties, and other monies collected pursuant to this Part.~~

5 (4) ~~Issue licenses and permits to persons engaged in aquacultural activities~~
6 ~~in accordance with this Part.~~

7 (5) ~~Conduct inspections and investigations in accordance with the provisions~~
8 ~~of this Part and any rules and regulations adopted pursuant to the provisions of this~~
9 ~~Part.~~

10 (6) ~~Seek and obtain injunctive or other civil relief to restrain and prevent~~
11 ~~violations of this Part, rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part, or orders~~
12 ~~and rulings issued pursuant to this Part.~~

13 (7) ~~Institute civil proceedings to enforce his orders or rulings, collect any~~
14 ~~fees, fines, penalties, or costs due under this Part or to otherwise enforce the~~
15 ~~provisions of this Part or rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

16 (8) ~~Issue a stop order to prevent a violation or further violation of this Part~~
17 ~~or of any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

18 C. ~~Any suit filed pursuant to this Part may be filed in East Baton Rouge~~
19 ~~Parish or in any parish of proper venue.~~

20 §559.7. Determination of species of aquatic livestock suitable for aquaculture in
21 Louisiana

22 A. The council shall initiate the process of approving a species for
23 aquaculture by making a preliminary proposal regarding a species being considered
24 for aquaculture. The preliminary proposal must be approved by a majority vote.

25 B.(1) No rule or regulation authorized by Subsection A of this Section shall
26 be promulgated except following a recommendation of the council that a species is
27 aquatic livestock suitable for aquaculture.

1 (2) ~~The council shall conduct a public meeting to consider recommending~~
2 ~~whether a species may be declared as aquatic livestock suitable for aquaculture and~~
3 ~~conditions or limitations related thereto.~~

4 (3) ~~Prior to the public meeting, the council shall obtain all scientific data~~
5 ~~reasonably available to it. The council shall consider all reports and~~
6 ~~recommendations submitted to it, all scientific data available to it, and all public~~
7 ~~comments received at the public meeting prior to making its recommendation.~~

8 (4) ~~The council's recommendations shall be in writing and shall be approved~~
9 ~~at a public meeting of the council by a majority of the council. Such final approval~~
10 ~~may be adopted at the public meeting required by this Subsection or at a subsequent~~
11 ~~public meeting of the council. The recommendations shall be a detailed report~~
12 ~~including the recommendation as to whether the species is aquatic livestock suitable~~
13 ~~for aquaculture, the reasons for the recommendations, and proposed regulations~~
14 ~~regarding the producing, raising, managing, harvesting, and transporting of the~~
15 ~~aquatic livestock.~~

16 C. ~~A copy of the council's recommendations shall be sent to the Louisiana~~
17 ~~Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and to all persons and state agencies that~~
18 ~~submitted written reports or recommendations or who were present at the public~~
19 ~~meeting and provided the council with a mailing address.~~

20 D. ~~After receiving recommendations from the council, the Wildlife and~~
21 ~~Fisheries Commission shall consider the council's recommendations at one of its~~
22 ~~monthly meetings or at a special meeting called for that purpose. After considering~~
23 ~~the recommendations of the council, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall~~
24 ~~determine if a recommended species is suitable for aquaculture. If the Wildlife and~~
25 ~~Fisheries Commission determines suitability for aquaculture, it shall adopt a rule to~~
26 ~~that effect and, in addition, adopt rules and regulations it deems reasonable or~~
27 ~~necessary to prevent the species from having a detrimental impact on the natural~~
28 ~~resources of the state. Any such rule or regulation shall be adopted in accordance~~
29 ~~with the Administrative Procedure Act. However, any such rule or regulation~~

1 ~~promulgated by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may be promulgated in~~
2 ~~accordance with the procedures in R.S. 49:953(B). No species shall be authorized as~~
3 ~~suitable for aquaculture and deemed aquatic livestock except by rules and regulations~~
4 ~~promulgated by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission or, if the Wildlife and~~
5 ~~Fisheries Commission fails to act within ninety days following the submission of the~~
6 ~~council's report, by the commissioner as provided in Subsection E of this Section.~~
7 ~~Those species which have been previously approved for aquaculture as of July 1,~~
8 ~~2004, shall continue to be approved under the rules and regulations in effect at the~~
9 ~~time of their approval and shall be deemed to be aquatic livestock; said rules and~~
10 ~~regulations may be amended, as appropriate and in the best interest of the state, under~~
11 ~~the procedures outlined in this Section.~~

12 ~~E. Within ninety days after submission of the council's report, the Wildlife~~
13 ~~and Fisheries Commission shall take action on the report. Such action may include~~
14 ~~approval of the council's recommendations, approval with modifications to the~~
15 ~~recommendations, or rejection of the council's recommendations. If the Wildlife and~~
16 ~~Fisheries Commission fails to take any action within ninety days, the commissioner~~
17 ~~may proceed with submitting a notice of intent for the proposed rule to the Louisiana~~
18 ~~Register. If the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission approves the council's~~
19 ~~recommendations as transmitted and proceeds to adopt rules and regulations in~~
20 ~~accordance with Subsection D of this Section, then the commissioner may proceed~~
21 ~~with rulemaking regarding that species. In no instance shall the rules and regulations~~
22 ~~promulgated by the commissioner lessen the requirements imposed by the Wildlife~~
23 ~~and Fisheries Commission or provide for a waiver thereof. If the Wildlife and~~
24 ~~Fisheries Commission's action modifies in any way or rejects the council's~~
25 ~~recommendations, the commissioner and the secretary of the Department of Wildlife~~
26 ~~and Fisheries shall jointly decide whether to accept the Wildlife and Fisheries~~
27 ~~Commission's action. If the commissioner and secretary decide not to accept the~~
28 ~~Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's action, the commissioner and secretary shall~~
29 ~~jointly present a revised recommendation to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.~~

1 ~~at which time the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may accept the revised~~
2 ~~recommendation as presented or with modifications, or may reject the revised~~
3 ~~recommendation. If the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission accepts the joint revised~~
4 ~~recommendation of the commissioner and secretary and proceeds to adopt rules and~~
5 ~~regulations in accordance with Subsection D of this Section, the commissioner may~~
6 ~~proceed with rulemaking for that species. If the commissioner and secretary accept~~
7 ~~the action of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, the commissioner may proceed~~
8 ~~with rulemaking for that species. If the commissioner and secretary cannot agree on~~
9 ~~a revised recommendation, then the matter may be referred back to the Wildlife and~~
10 ~~Fisheries Commission for reconsideration. There shall be no limit on the number of~~
11 ~~times the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may consider recommendations~~
12 ~~regarding a particular species from the council or the commissioner or secretary.~~
13 ~~Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the council, commissioner, or~~
14 ~~secretary may seek judicial review of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's action~~
15 ~~in the Nineteenth Judicial District Court, but only after the recommendation has been~~
16 ~~submitted to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission not less than three times.~~

17 ~~E. The criteria to be used by the council, the Department of Wildlife and~~
18 ~~Fisheries, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and the commissioner~~
19 ~~in determining whether a species is suitable for aquaculture shall include but not be~~
20 ~~limited to the following:~~

- 21 ~~(1) Whether the species is established in Louisiana.~~
22 ~~(2) Whether the aquacultural production and marketing of the species is~~
23 ~~viable and sustainable.~~
24 ~~(3) Whether the species can be produced, maintained, and harvested in such~~
25 ~~a manner as to minimize, to a reasonable probability, the species' escape into the~~
26 ~~wild.~~
27 ~~(4) Any other scientific data regarding the species including the potential to~~
28 ~~harm the natural resources of the state.~~

1 ~~(5) Whether the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries can insure the~~
2 ~~enforcement of rules and regulations regarding gamefish and the maintenance and~~
3 ~~preservation of the species to the same extent as existed prior to July 1, 2004.~~

4 ~~G. Rules promulgated pursuant to this Section shall be subject to legislative~~
5 ~~oversight consistent with R.S. 49:968.~~

6 ~~§559.8. Aquacultural production; licensing; fees; records~~

7 ~~A. Every aquatic producer of a suitable species of aquatic livestock shall~~
8 ~~obtain a license from the department for each facility owned or operated by the~~
9 ~~aquatic producer. Each license shall be renewed annually. An application for a~~
10 ~~license shall be on a form furnished by the department and shall solicit such~~
11 ~~information as the department deems reasonably pertinent. A fee or structured fees~~
12 ~~for licenses, permits, applications for licenses, inspections, and other services~~
13 ~~required under this Part may be adopted by rule or regulation, based upon the~~
14 ~~recommendation of the council. The amount of any fees shall not generate revenues~~
15 ~~in excess of the total cost involved in providing the license, permit, or service.~~

16 ~~B. Prior to approval and issuance of any license, the Department of~~
17 ~~Agriculture and Forestry and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries shall jointly~~
18 ~~inspect each facility subject to the license to determine that aquatic livestock at the~~
19 ~~facility are in compliance with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

20 ~~C. The criteria used by the departments in inspecting the facility shall be~~
21 ~~established by rules and regulations adopted in consultation with the council. The~~
22 ~~criteria shall include the following:~~

23 ~~(1) The species of aquatic livestock to be raised, maintained, or harvested at~~
24 ~~the facility.~~

25 ~~(2) Whether the species is established in Louisiana.~~

26 ~~(3) The physical location and size of the facility.~~

27 ~~(4) The topography of the facility and the surrounding area.~~

28 ~~(5) The approximate number of individual aquatic livestock at the facility.~~

29 ~~(6) The facility's operational plan.~~

1 (7) ~~The type of impoundment at the facility.~~

2 (8) ~~The filtering or treatment system to be used to prevent the passage of~~
3 ~~eggs, larvae, juveniles, adults, waste, and unpurified water from the facility into areas~~
4 ~~or waters outside the facility.~~

5 (9) ~~The emergency plan to become operational in the event of flooding or~~
6 ~~natural or manmade disasters.~~

7 (10) ~~The most current best management practices for the type of facility.~~

8 D. ~~Licensed aquatic producers shall maintain and preserve records as~~
9 ~~required by the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

10 §559.9. ~~Inspections; investigations; confidentiality~~

11 A. ~~The department may conduct an investigation if it has reason to believe~~
12 ~~that a violation of this Part or the rules or regulations adopted pursuant to this Part~~
13 ~~may occur or has occurred. In connection with any such investigation, the~~
14 ~~department may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses or the~~
15 ~~production of documents and records anywhere in the state. The subpoenas shall be~~
16 ~~served as provided for the service of subpoenas under the Administrative Procedure~~
17 ~~Act.~~

18 B. ~~The department shall have access, during normal working hours, to any~~
19 ~~premises where there is reason to believe that aquatic livestock are being produced,~~
20 ~~maintained, harvested, or marketed. The department may examine any facility and~~
21 ~~any records relating to the production, maintenance, harvesting, or marketing of~~
22 ~~aquatic livestock. Entrance on the premises under the provisions of this Subsection~~
23 ~~shall not be deemed to be criminal trespass under any state law or local ordinance.~~

24 C. ~~If any person is found guilty of violating this Part or any rule or regulation~~
25 ~~adopted pursuant to this Part or is found guilty of a criminal violation as a result of~~
26 ~~any such investigation, the person found guilty shall reimburse the department the~~
27 ~~cost of the investigation.~~

1 D. The records of investigations conducted under the provisions of this
2 Section shall be confidential and shall not be public records for the purposes of
3 Chapter 1 of Title 44 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

4 E. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry and the Department of
5 Wildlife and Fisheries are authorized to jointly inspect each facility licensed pursuant
6 to R.S. 3:559.8 to determine that the aquatic livestock and the facility are in
7 compliance with the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this Part. The two
8 departments shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to delineate the
9 procedures for such inspections.

10 §559.10. Stop order

11 A. The commissioner may issue a stop order prohibiting the production,
12 harvesting, distribution, sale, offering for sale, application, movement, or disturbance
13 of any aquatic livestock or products derived therefrom to prevent a violation or
14 continued violation of this Part or the rules and regulations adopted pursuant to this
15 Part.

16 B. Any person aggrieved by a stop order may petition for a hearing on the
17 matter. The hearing shall be held in accordance with the provisions of R.S.
18 3:559.13(D).

19 C. Based on the results of the hearing, or a consent agreement mutually
20 entered into by the department and a violator, the commissioner may take one or
21 more of the following actions:

22 (1) Release the aquatic livestock or product from the stop order.

23 (2) Require the cause for the stop order to be remedied prior to releasing the
24 stop order.

25 (3) Destroy the aquatic livestock or product.

26 (4) Provide for the disposition of the aquatic livestock or product.

27 §559.11. Deposit and disbursement of fees and other monies

28 A. All fees, interest, penalties, and other monies received under the
29 provisions of this Part shall be deposited in a special fund established for the council.

1 The commissioner, as authorized by the council, shall make disbursements from the
2 fund for the activities of the council authorized by the Part.

3 B. The monies in the fund shall be used for the following purposes:

4 (1) To provide for the expenses of the program established by this Part. The
5 commissioner may retain a portion of the total assessments collected, as is necessary
6 to defray the costs of collecting assessments and administering and enforcing this
7 Part.

8 (2) To fund all costs of the council related to the orderly development of a
9 modern, sustainable aquacultural segment of Louisiana's agriculture industry and
10 promotion of aquaculture and aquaculture products.

11 §559.12. Violations: cost of remedying violations

12 Violations of this Part shall include but shall not be limited to the following:

13 (1) Conducting business as an aquatic producer of aquatic livestock without
14 a valid, unsuspended license or permit if a license or permit is required of that
15 producer.

16 (2) Producing, maintaining, harvesting, or marketing aquatic livestock that
17 has not been approved by the commissioner as aquatic livestock suitable for
18 aquaculture pursuant to this Part.

19 (3) Allowing the discharge or passage of eggs, larvae, juveniles, or adults of
20 aquatic livestock requiring a license or their waste or unpurified water into areas or
21 waters outside the facility.

22 (4) Submitting false or fraudulent information on any application for a
23 license or permit or in regard to any inspection or investigation conducted by the
24 department.

25 (5) Maintaining false or fraudulent records.

26 (6) Knowingly operating faulty or unsafe equipment at a facility.

27 (7) Operating a facility in a faulty, careless, or negligent manner.

28 (8) Refusing or failing to properly maintain a facility.

1 ~~(9) Refusing or failing to properly dispose of eggs, larvae, juveniles, or adults~~
2 ~~of aquatic livestock requiring a license or their waste or unpurified water from a~~
3 ~~facility.~~

4 ~~(10) Refusing or failing to keep and maintain the records required by this~~
5 ~~Part or the regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

6 ~~(11) The aiding or abetting of, or conspiring to aid or abet, any unlicensed~~
7 ~~or unpermitted person in the violation of the provisions of this Part or of the rules and~~
8 ~~regulations adopted pursuant to this Part.~~

9 ~~(12) Allowing a license or permit to be used by another person.~~

10 ~~(13) Interfering with the council, the commissioner, or the department or~~
11 ~~their representatives in the performance of their duties in connection with this Part.~~

12 ~~(14) Refusing or failing to pay any fines legally imposed pursuant to this~~
13 ~~Part.~~

14 ~~(15) Violating any provision of this Part, any rule or regulation adopted~~
15 ~~pursuant to this Part, or any stop order issued pursuant to this Part.~~

16 ~~§559.13. Penalties; enforcement~~

17 ~~A. Any person who violates any provision of this Part or any rule or~~
18 ~~regulation adopted pursuant thereto or any provision of a stop order shall be subject~~
19 ~~to a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each act of violation and~~
20 ~~for each day of violation. Each day on which a violation occurs shall be a separate~~
21 ~~offense.~~

22 ~~B. Any licensee or permit holder who violates any of the provisions of this~~
23 ~~Part or the rules or regulations adopted pursuant thereto or any stop order shall be~~
24 ~~subject to having his license or permit suspended, revoked, or placed on probation,~~
25 ~~in addition to any other penalties authorized by this Part.~~

26 ~~C. In addition to any penalty that may be imposed under Subsections A or B~~
27 ~~of this Section, any person who operates a facility requiring a license from which~~
28 ~~eggs, larvae, juveniles, or adults of aquatic livestock or their waste or unpurified~~
29 ~~water escape or are released may be required to reimburse the state or appropriate~~

1 ~~state agency or agencies any cost incurred by them in the destroying, removing,~~
2 ~~containing, or monitoring of the release or discharge. It shall be an affirmative~~
3 ~~defense that the release or discharge was an act of nature or sabotage if the aquatic~~
4 ~~producer operating the facility held, at the time of the release or discharge, a valid~~
5 ~~unsuspended license listing the facility. No affirmative defense shall be available to~~
6 ~~an aquatic producer if, at the time of the release or discharge, he was unlicensed, or~~
7 ~~if his license was suspended, or if the facility from which the release or discharge~~
8 ~~came was not listed on his license, or if he was producing, managing, harvesting, or~~
9 ~~marketing aquatic livestock that had not been determined to be suitable for~~
10 ~~aquaculture pursuant to this Part.~~

11 D. Penalties and costs of reimbursement may be assessed only by a ruling of
12 the commissioner based upon an adjudicatory hearing held in accordance with the
13 provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and this Part. The council shall be
14 convened by the commissioner for the purpose of hearing any alleged violation of
15 this Part or any regulation adopted pursuant to this Part, or to impose the cost of
16 reimbursement. The commissioner shall appoint a hearing officer to preside over the
17 hearing. The council shall make an initial determination on the matter. This
18 determination shall be submitted to the commissioner in writing. The commissioner
19 shall make the final determination on the matter. If the determination of the
20 commissioner differs from the determination of the board, the commissioner shall
21 issue a written opinion based on the record of the hearing.

22 E. In addition to civil penalties, the cost of the adjudicatory hearing may be
23 assessed against any person found to be in violation of this Part or the regulations
24 adopted pursuant to this Part. The amount of costs to be assessed in adjudicatory
25 hearings shall be established by regulation.

26 F. Any action brought for civil violation shall not preclude criminal
27 prosecution for the same violation of this Part or rules and regulations promulgated
28 hereunder. Any violation of rules or regulations promulgated by the Wildlife and

1 Fisheries Commission pursuant to R.S. 3:559.7(D) shall be a class two violation as
2 defined by R.S. 56:32.

3 §559.14. Application

4 The provisions of this Part shall not apply to largemouth bass (*Micropterus*
5 *salmoides*), spotted bass (*Micropterus punctulatus*) or black or white crappie
6 (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*, *P. annularis*).

7 Section 2. R.S. 36:802.6 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 36:629(Q) is
8 hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §629. Transfer of boards, commissions, departments, and agencies to the
10 Department of Agriculture and Forestry

11 * * *

12 Q. The Louisiana Aquaculture Coordinating Council, as created in R.S.
13 3:559.4, is placed within the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and shall
14 exercise its powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities in the manner provided by
15 R.S. 36:802.6.

16 * * *

17 §802.6. Transfer; certain appointive authority retained

18 The agencies placed in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry by R.S.
19 36:629(J), (K), ~~and (M)~~ and (Q) shall exercise and carry out all powers, duties,
20 functions, and responsibilities as provided in R.S. 36:802, except that each agency,
21 subject to the approval of the commissioner of agriculture and forestry, shall appoint
22 its own director and assistant director.

23 * * *

24 Section 3. R.S. 44:4.1(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

25 §4.1. Exceptions

26 * * *

27 B. The legislature further recognizes that there exist exceptions, exemptions,
28 and limitations to the laws pertaining to public records throughout the revised
29 statutes and codes of this state. Therefore, the following exceptions, exemptions, and

1 limitations are hereby continued in effect by incorporation into this Chapter by
2 citation:

3 (1) R.S. 3:552.24, 556.10, 557.12, 558.10, 559.9, 750, 1313, 1367, 1901,
4 3204, 3221, 3370, 3421, 3706, 4021, 4110.

5 * * *

6 Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
8 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
10 effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT

JULY, 2004

REGION 1: MINDEN**PARISHES: BIENVILLE, BOSSIER,
CADDO, CLAIBORNE,
WEBSTER, RED RIVER,
DESOTO**

TOTAL CASES	75
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
27	Boating Safety
16	Angling W/O Resident License
7	Fishing W/O Resident Pole License
2	Take/Possess Over Limit Freshwater Game Fish (Largemouth Bass)
1	Hunt Squirrels C/S
1	Possession Live Alligators W/O Permit
2	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
2	Resisting An Officer
2	Illegal Possession Marijuana
2	Operate Vehicle While Intoxicated
5	Operate Vessel While Intoxicated
6	Littering
2	Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 32	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
14	Boating Safety

11	Angling W/O Resident License
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
5	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
2 Blunts; 1 Plastic Bag W/Green Vegetable Material; 4 Squirrels (Destroyed); 1 Marlin Model 60 .22 Cal. Rifle; 25 Largemouth Bass (Donated)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION I:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
27	Boating
00	Commercial Fishing
00	Federal Migratory
6	Littering
16	Miscellaneous
25	Recreational Fishing
1	State Hunting/Trapping
32	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

REGION 2: MONROE**PARISHES: E. CARROLL, JACKSON,
LINCOLN, MOREHOUSE,
OUACHITA, RICHALND,
UNION, W. CARROLL**

TOTAL CASES	103
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
67	Boating
7	Angle Without A Non-Resident License
16	Angle Without A Resident License
2	DWI (Boat)
3	Littering
7	Fish Without A Pole License
1	Blocking Passage Of Fish

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 36	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
5	No Fire Extinguisher
4	Expired Boat Registration Certificate
3	Improper Boat Numbers
2	Improper Running Lights
1	Operate Unregistered Motorboat
4	Failure To Display Valid Certificate Decal
3	No Boat Registration Certificate IN Possession

6	Angle Without A Resident License
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
3	Failure To Comply With PFD Regulations (No Throwable)
1	Angle Without A Non-Resident License
1	Improperly Riding On Deck ON Gunwales
1	Failure To Change Ownership Of Registration
1	No Observer In Watercraft While Skiing

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
3-Black Bass

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 2:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
69	Boating
1	Commercial Fishing
-0-	Federal Migratory
3	Littering
-0-	Miscellaneous
30	Recreational Fishing

-0-	State Hunting/Trapping
36	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
7	Public Assistance (Assisting Stranded Motorists and Boaters)

REGION 3: ALEXANDRIA**PARISHES: AVOYELLES, GRANT,
NATCHITOCHEs,
RAPIDES, SABINE,
VERNON, WINN**

TOTAL CASES	163
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
75	Boating
38	Angling W/O A License
2	Take/Possess Undersize Commercial Fin Fish
1	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
4	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
1	Fish W/O Resident Cane Pole License
1	Sell Fish W/O Retail Seafood License
2	Take Game Fish Illegally
1	Possession Of Alligator Closed Season
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirements
2	Take Over Limit Freshwater Game Fish
1	Possess Spotted Fawn
1	Possession Of Red Tail Hawk (Parts)
3	Operate ATV On Public Road
11	Criminal Trespass On State Property
6	Simple Possession Of Marijuana

4	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
7	Littering
1	DWI
1	Not Abiding By Rules & Regulations (Use Four Wheeler In C/S)

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL - 10	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
6	Angling W/O A License
2	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
1	Possession Of Wild Quadruped W/O A Permit
1	Boating

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
2 Bags Marijuana, 422 Catfish, 1 Alligator, 1 Pair Hawk Talons, 1 Spotted Fawn Hide, 29 Black Bass

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 3:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
75	Boating
3	Commercial Fishing
1	Federal Migratory

7	Littering
26	Miscellaneous
50	Recreational Fishing
1	State Hunting/Trapping
10	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Public Assistance

REGION 4: FERRIDAY**PARISHES: CALDWELL, CATAHOULA,
CONCORDIA, FRANKLLIN,
LASALLE, MADISON, TENSAS**

TOTAL CASES	83
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
40	Boating Safety Violations
1	Allow Another To Use Recreational License
17	Angling W/O A License
4	Angling W/O A Non-Resident License
10	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirements
2	Take Game Fish Illegally (Hoop Nets)
2	Taking Over Limit Freshwater Fish (Bass)
1	Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Without A License
1	Failure To Mark Nets
1	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
2	Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated
1	Littering

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	19	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
6		Angling W/O Resident License

8	Boating Safety Violations
5	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
93 Crappie; 23 Bass; 1 Hoop Net

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 4:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
40	Boating
4	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
2	Miscellaneous
35	Recreational Fishing
1	State Hunting/Trapping
19	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

REGION 5: LAKE CHARLES**PARISHES: BEAUREGARD, CALCASIEU,
EVANGELINE, ALLEN,
CAMERON, ACADIA,
VERMILION, JEFF DAVIS**

TOTAL CASES	133
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
62	Boating
28	Angling W/O A License
9	Angling W/O A License – Non-Resident
1	Angling W/O Saltwater License
2	Take/Poss. Undersized Spotted Seatrout (Rec.)
2	Take/Poss. Undersize Black Drum (Rec.)
2	Comm. Rules And Regulations Red Snapper/Undersize/Rec.
1	Comm. Rules And Regulations/Shark/Undersize/Rec.
1	Take Comm. Fish W/O Comm. Gear License/Trawl
1	Take Or Poss. Alligators Closed Season
3	Poss. Of Live MGB Illegally
1	Operate A Vessel While Intoxicated
3	Poss./Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish
3	Poss./Take Over Limit Federal Controlled Fish
3	Fail To Keep Federal Controlled Fish Intact
1	Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road

10	Littering
----	-----------

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 23	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Improperly Riding On Deck Or Gunwales
2	Improper Or No Fire Extinguisher
6	Failure To Comply W/PFD Requirements
5	Angling W/O A License
2	Improper Running Lights
1	No Observer Or Fail To Comply W/Waterskiing Regulations
1	Improper Boat Numbers
1	Improper Or No Sound Producing Device
1	Not Abiding By R/R On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
4 Rods; 4 Reels; 1 Cast Net; 10 Lbs. Shrimp Donated; 46 Undersize Red Snapper; 7 Undersized Black Drum, RTW; 6 Bass Donated; 11 Specks Donated; 1 Blue Shark; 1 Crate Live Crabs, RTW; 2 Alligators; 1 Shotgun; 16 Shells; 37 Snowy Egrets; 5 American Egrets; 3 White Ibis; 1 Blue Heron; 2 Live Canadian Geese Released; Littering Documents; LSP Citation; 4 Ice Chests; 3 Aluminum Cans; 1 Map; 1 Bag Of Marijuana; 2 Knives

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 5:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
63	Boating

13	Commercial Fishing
3	Federal Migratory
10	Littering
1	Miscellaneous
42	Recreational Fishing
1	State Hunting/Trapping
23	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
11	Public Assistance

REGION 6: OPELOUSAS**PARISHES: IBERIA, IBERVILLE,
PT.COUPÉE, LAFAYETTE,
ST. LANDRY, ST. MARTIN,
W.B.R.**

TOTAL CASES	151
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
55	Boating
1	Violate Commission Regulations For Commercial Fish
4	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On Refuge
7	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
56	Angling W/O License In Possession
1	Not Abiding By Commission Rules
10	Frog Closed Season
1	Sell Fish W/O Wholesale Retail Dealers License
1	Fail To Maintain Records
2	Littering
3	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
1	Angling W/O Non-Resident License
1	Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana
7	Set Crab Traps In Unsafe Manner
1	Possession Of Live Alligator W/O Permit

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
18	Boating
2	Angling W/O Non-Resident License
1	Fish W/O Resident Pole License
21	Angling W/O License
2	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
6	Not Abiding By Rules/Regulations On WMA

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
10 Crab Traps, 100 Lbs. Shrimp, 1 Trawl, 2 Champagne Baskets, Check for \$85.00, 2 Black Bass, 1 Rod And Reel, 27 Frogs, 1 Cut Cigar, 1 Bag Containing Green, Leafy, Vegetable-Like Substance, 1 Alligator, 1 Boat

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 6:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
55	Boating
10	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
6	Miscellaneous

78	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
50	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
10	Public Assistance

REGION 7: BATON ROUGE**PARISHES: ASCENSION, E.B. ROUGE,
E. FELICIANA, LIVINGSTON
ST. HELENA, ST. TAMMANY,
TANGIPAHOA, WASHINGTON,
W. FELICIANA**

TOTAL CASES	197
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
54	Angling Without Basic Resident License
9	Angling Without Basic Non-Resident License
3	Angling Without Non-Resident Saltwater License
1	Angling Without Resident Saltwater License
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirements
1	Possession Of Spotted Fawn
2	Theft Over \$500
1	Littering
125	Boating (9 D.W.I.'s)

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
13	
8	Angling Without Residence License
1	Boating
3	W.M.A. Rules And Regulation Violations
1	Possession Undersize Black Drum

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
2-Spotted Fawn	1-Boat 1-Outboard Motor

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 7:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
210	
125	Boating
-	Commercial Fishing
-	Federal Migratory
1	Littering
3	Miscellaneous
68	Recreational Fishing
-	State Hunting/Trapping
13	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
22	Public Assistance 17-Assist Boaters 5-Assist Motorists

REGION 8: NEW ORLEANS**PARISHES: PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD,
ORLEANS, JEFFERSON,
ST. CHARLES**

TOTAL CASES	177
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
38	Boating
40	Angling W/O A License
11	Angling W/O A License Non-Resident
1	Violate Recreational Gear License
5	Angling W/O Saltwater License
3	Angling W/O Saltwater License Non-Resident
2	Take Or Poss. Game Fish Illegally
4	Poss. O/L Of Red Drum In Excess of 27"
9	Take Or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout
3	Take Or Poss. Undersized Black Drum
2	Take Poss. O/L Spotted Sea Trout(On Water)
1	Fail To Comply With Charter Boat Regulations
2	Take Or Sell Commercial Fish W/O Comm. License
1	Take Commercial Fish W/O Comm. Gear License
1	Take Or Poss. Commercial Fish W/O Vessel License
6	Fail To Maintain Records

3	Use Bandit Or Long Line Gear Or Take Or Possess Fish Taken In State Waters With Bandit Or Long Line Gear
1	Buy Commercial Fish From Unlicensed Fisherman
3	Theft Of Crab Trap
1	Trawling In Closed Season (Inside Waters)
10	Use Skimmers In Closed Season
2	Failure To Have Written Permission
5	Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
5	Take Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted) Possess, Sell, Barter, Trade, Exchange, Attempt To Sell Barter Trade Or Exchange
5	Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease
3	Take Oysters Closed Season
1	Failure to Display Proper Number On Vessel
1	Harvest Oysters W/O Oyster Harvester License
1	Operating A Vessel While Intoxicated(DWI)
3	Littering
3	Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
1	Violate Commercial Regulations For Commercial Fish

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 9	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
5	Boating
2	Angling W/O A License

1	Take Or Poss. Undersized Spotted Sea Trout
1	Take Or Poss. Undersized Black Drum
4	Commission Rules And Regulations (Misc.) Snapper

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
Returned to Water.....Oyster(2,400)...Oyster Sacks(29)...Shrimp(20 Lbs.)...Spotted Sea Trout(3)...Blue Crabs(100)...Mullet(3lbs.) <u>Sold@Bid</u> ...58 Lbs. Of Shrimp Sold For \$43.50...70 Lbs. Of Shrimp Sold For \$80.50...15 Shark Fins For \$195.00...33 Cobia For \$57.75...544 Shark For \$108.80...1,230 Lbs. Of Shrimp Sold For \$116.85...253 Lbs. Of Shrimp Sold For \$328.90...225 Lbs. Of Shrimp For \$112.50...Donated.....Flounder(11) Black Drum(2 Lbs.,1)...Red Drum(11)...Spotted Sea Trout(119)...Perch(34)...Catfish(368) Channel Mullet(1)...White Trout(2)...Hardware Confiscated.....Skimmer Nets(2)... Catfish Lugs(2)...Ice Chests(2)...Oyster Dredges(5)...Trawl(1)

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 8:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
38	Boating
76	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
3	Littering
6	Miscellaneous
54	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
9	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
8	Public Assistance

REGION 9: SCHRIEVER

**PARISHES: ASSUMPTION, ST. JAMES,
ST. JOHN, ST. MARY,
TERREBONNE, LAFOURCHE,
JEFFERSON-GRAND ISLE,
LOWER ST. MARTIN**

TOTAL CASES	229
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
75	Boating
28	Angling Without A Fishing License
1	Angling Without A Non-Resident Fishing License
3	Fish Without A Resident Pole License
5	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement
4	Angling Without Saltwater License
2	Taking Undersize Bowfin (Choupique)
4	Take Illegal Size Black Bass
4	Take Undersized Red Drum
2	Take Undersized Spotted Sea Trout (Recreational)
6	Take Undersized Black Drum (Recreational)
2	Not Abiding By WMA Rules And Regulations By Commercial Fishing
1	DWI (Boat)
2	Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession
4	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial License

2	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial Gear License (Skimmer Nets)
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial Gear License (Catfish Cans)
1	Take Commercial Fish Without Commercial Gear License (Crab Trap)
3	Take Commercial Fish Without Vessel License
3	Take Undersize Commercial Finfish (Catfish)
1	Use Crab Traps Without Required Markings
7	Illegally Remove Contents From Legal Crab Traps
4	Tending Crab Traps Illegal Hours
1	Theft Of Crab Traps
3	Use Trawl Exceeding Size Requirements (Offshore LA Waters)
38	Use Skimmers In Closed Season
1	Fail To Comply With Special Bait Dealers Permit
12	Take Oysters Closed Season
1	Violate Sanitation Code (Harvester's Log Book)
2	Take Alligators Closed Season
2	Possession Stolen Property
1	Hit And Run (Leave Scene Of Boat Accident)
2	Litter
1	Harvest Oysters Without Harvester's License

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL 100	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
58	Boating
23	Angling Without Fishing License
15	Angling Without Saltwater License
4	Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
13,253 Lbs. Shrimp Sold \$22,642.15; 787 Lbs. Shrimp; 49 Sacks Oysters; 19 Speckled Trout; 10 Black Drum; 9 Red Drum; 7 Black Bass; 397 Lbs. Catfish; 190 Lbs. Catfish Sold \$66.50; 160 Lbs. Crabs; 4 Choupiques; 1 Alligator; 1 Rod And Reel; 1 Personal Water Craft; 13 Boats And Motors (Paper Seizure); 1 Pirogue; 42 Skimmer Nets; 5 Trawl Nets; 2 Crab Traps; 4 Shrimp Baskets; 1 Special Bait Permit; 2 White Buoys; 1 Commercial License; 2 Beverage Cans

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REGION 9:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
75	Boating
87	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
2	Littering
4	Miscellaneous
59	Recreational Fishing
2	State Hunting/Trapping
100	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
14	Public Assistance

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE**COASTAL WATERS**

TOTAL CASES	23
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
12	Take Oysters Closed Season
1	Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
2	Failure To Have Written Permission
2	Unlawfully Take Oysters From Private Lease
1	Violate Sanitary Code
2	Angling Without A Basic License
2	Angling Without A Saltwater License
1	Failure To Comply With PFD Requirement

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
4	Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
1	Fail To Comply With Homemade Boat Requirements

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
60 Sacks Of Oysters

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR OSF:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Boating
18	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
4	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
5	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Public Assistance

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT**STATEWIDE**

TOTAL CASES	18
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Violate Commission Rules And Regulations (O/L Cobia)
1	Angling W/O Basic License
1	Angling W/O Saltwater License
1	Fail To Have Saltwater Fish Intact
1	Violate Commission Rules And Regulations (O/L Red Snapper)
1	Violate Commission Rules And Regulations (U/S Red Snapper)
7	Fail To Maintain Records
3	Fail To Report Commercial Fisheries Data
1	Take Federal Controlled Fish C/S
1	Take Red Snapper W/O Federal Permit

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
0	

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
212 Lbs. Of Cobia Sold For \$212.00, 1,343 Lbs. Of Red Snapper Sold For \$3,424.65, 50 Lbs. Of Red Snapper Donated, 120 Lbs. Live Crabs Returned To State Waters

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SIU:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Boating
16	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
2	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
0	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

S.W.E.P.**COASTAL WATERS**

TOTAL CASES	29
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Boating
1	Violate Sanitary Code (Improper Log Book)
12	Unlawfully Take Oysters From Unleased State Water Bottoms
12	Skimming In Closed Season
3	Use Trawls Exceeding Size Requirements (La. Offshore Waters)

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
3	Improper Numbers On Vessel

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION
33 Sacks Of Oysters, 8,833 Lbs. Of Shrimp, 12 Skimmer Nets, 4 Soft Trawls, 4 Oyster Dredges

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR SWEP:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
1	Boating
28	Commercial Fishing

0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
0	Miscellaneous
0	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
3	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
0	Public Assistance

****Note: 71 Hours Run**

69 Boats Checked

REFUGE PATROL**MARSH ISLAND, ROCKEFELLER,
STATE WILDLIFE**

TOTAL CASES	25
TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Violate Recreational Gear License Requirement
1	Angle Without A Basic License(Non-resident)
1	Expired Boat Registration Certificate
4	Improper Or No Running Lights
1	Failure To Comply With Pfd. Requirements
3	Set Crab Traps In Navigable Channel Or Entrance To Streams
3	Set Crab Traps In Unsafe Manner Hazardous To Navigation
2	Take Or Possess Undersize Black Drum
1	Illegal Possession Of Marijuana
1	Possession Of Drug Paraphernalia
7	Not Abide By Rules And Regulations On W.M.A.

WRITTEN WARNINGS:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION OF CITATION
1	Commission Rules And Regulations(Undersize Shark)
1	Not Abide By Rules And Regulations On W.M.A.

CONFISCATIONS:

CONFISCATION DESCRIPTION	
1-Pint Ziplock Bag Of Suspected Marijuana, 1-Marijuana Pipe, 16-Blue Crabs 1-Rod And Reel, 6-Crab Traps, 7-Black Drum	

TOTAL OF EACH CATEGORY FOR REFUGE PATROL:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
6	Boating
6	Commercial Fishing
0	Federal Migratory
0	Littering
9	Miscellaneous
4	Recreational Fishing
0	State Hunting/Trapping
2	Written Warnings

TOTAL NUMBER FOR PUBLIC ASSISTANCE:

TOTAL	DESCRIPTION
10	Public Assistance - Assisted 9-Disabled Vessels, 1-Assist Stranded Motorist

TOTAL CASES: 1,311

WRITTEN WARNINGS: 292

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE: 79

ENFORCEMENT AVIATION REPORT
JULY 2004

185 – Amph. – 61092
Hrs. - 21

185 – Amph. – 1322R
Hrs. - 20.7

210 – 9467Y
Hrs. - 6.1

Enforcement Hours - 32

Other Division - 15.8

Total Plane Use - 47.8

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

As a result of public comments and staff recommendations, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates for the Area 6 deer hunting season, which dates reflect the original recommendations of Department staff.

Modern Firearms Still Hunt - November 20 - December 5

Muzzleloader - December 6-10

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

C O V E R

S H E E T



FAX

To: Henry Mouton

Fax #: 337-234-6677

Subject: Area 6

Date: July 30, 2004

Pages: 2, including this cover sheet.

COMMENTS:

Attached is per your request.

From the desk of...

Susan Falcon

La. Dept. Of Wildlife & Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

225-765-2806
Fax: 225-765-0948

AREA 6 DATES AS AMENDED BY COMMISSION

April 1, 2004 Meeting

Archery	Muzzel loader	Still Hunt	Dogs Allowed
Oct. 16-Feb. 15 North of Highway 90 Oct. 1-Jan. 31 South of Highway 90	Dec. 6-10 Jan. 24-31	Nov. 20-Dec. 5	Dec. 11-Jan. 23

Falcon, Susan

From: Henry Mouton [henrymouton@star-service.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2004 4:42 PM
To: Susan Falcom
Subject: Area Six

Susan,

can you please fax me the Area Six Schedule that we approved at our April meeting?

Thanks,

Henry
Fax 337-234-6677



KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

DWIGHT LANDRENEAU
SECRETARY

July 22, 2004

Commissioners
Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission


RE: Hunting Season changes

Gentlemen:

Attached you will find recommendations for changes in both the mourning dove hunting season and the deer season in Area 6. These proposed changes reflect what, in the best estimation of Department staff, will provide the maximum hunting opportunity to the greatest number of hunters, allocated in what we believe is the most fair and equitable manner among the various user groups. These recommendations eliminate some of the internal season conflicts that were created at the July meeting, and maximize the ability of the Department to manage and enforce the season. For these reasons and the reasons set out in the attached staff explanations, I urge you to favorably consider these changes.

Thanking you for your consideration, I am

Sincerely,



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Enclosure

2004-05 Mourning Doves Hunting Recommendations

Statewide, Split Season, 70-day/12-bird aggregate daily bag and 24-bird aggregate possession

<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>	<i>Days</i>
Sep. 4 (Sat.)	Sep. 12 (Sun.)	9 days
Oct. 9 (Sat.)	Nov. 14 (Sun.)	37 days
Dec. 18 (Sat.)	Jan. 10 (Mon.)	24 days

Eurasian Collared-Doves and Ringed Turtle-Doves--Eurasian collared-doves and ringed turtle-doves may only be hunted or taken during the open mourning dove season. There is no bag limit on Eurasian collared-doves or ringed turtle-doves provided that a fully feathered wing and head remain attached to the carcass of the bird. Fully dressed Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle-doves (those without a fully feathered wing and head naturally attached to the carcass) shall be included in the daily bag limit for mourning doves.

Rationale for Recommendations:

From the early 1900s until 1991, Louisiana has selected the most liberal season length/bag with only 1 exception to season length/bag (1984). From 1991 until 2000, an alternating 70-day/12-bird bag and 60-day/15-bird bag was used. Prior to zoning of the state in 1973, the traditional season was 70 days with a bag of 12 birds. The September portion of the season had about 16 days while the 2nd and 3rd splits varied in length. With the ending of the use of zones in 1986, the "compromise" was the selection of a 9-day September period with the 70-day season.

Within the 70-day/12-bird bag option, dove hunters now have the opportunity to harvest more than 12 DOVES over much of the state because of the proliferation and range expansion of Eurasian collared-doves. In fact, many have the opportunity to harvest more than 15 DOVES because the Eurasian collared-dove does not count toward a hunter's limit unless the bird is dressed in the field. As a consequence, the Department believes that it is not the most prudent use of the dove frameworks to give up 10 days of hunting (2 weekends) for an increase in the mourning dove bag limit of 3 birds.

Other Factors Considered:

Reference Period = 1963-64 through 2003-04 Hunting Seasons (41 seasons in total)

- Of 28 statewide seasons, 12 had opening weekends on the 2nd Saturday in October and 18 had closing dates January 6th or later, 12 of which were January 6-10.
- With zoning, the South Zone opened in 8 of 13 years on the 2nd Saturday in October and the South Zone usually closed later than the North Zone. The South Zone closed January 6th or later in 9 of the 12 years with 70-day seasons.
- During the summer 2002, a meeting was held at the LDWF (Baton Rouge) office to discuss the zoning resolution passed by the legislature. Attendees included Representatives, Commission members, the general public, sportswriters, and LDWF staff. Southern hunters emphasized that an early October opening was important.
- Conversations with southern hunters present this meeting and others afterwards indicated that Thanksgiving was less important than the early October opening.
- While there is a general interest among southern hunters for longer 2nd split than the 3rd split, January was still important to many hunters.

Department biological recommendations for Area 6 deer season dates are:

- General gun season to start no earlier than Nov. 20, due to extremely late rut.
- Muzzleloader to start no earlier than Nov. 20, due to extremely late rut.
- Archery season to start no earlier than Oct. 16 in that portion of Area 6 north of Hwy. 90, due to extremely late rut.
- Feb. 1-15 Archery only for that portion of Area 6 north of Hwy. 90
- Public comment received from our statewide public meetings suggested strong support for changing the original NOI from a general gun season start of Nov. 26 to Nov. 20 as this would allow students more opportunity to hunt while out of school for Thanksgiving Holiday. The Muzzleloader season originally proposed to start Nov. 20 was changed to start Dec. 6 and run through Dec. 10 to accommodate this change. This change was made by the Commission on April 1.

The Commission changes at the July meeting:

- ♦ Moved the general gun season up from the Nov. 20 start to a Nov. 6 start (2 weeks earlier than recommended).
- ♦ Moved the muzzleloader season up to start Oct. 30 (3 weeks earlier than recommended).
- ♦ This move will precipitate moving the Youth Hunt on Private Property up one week to the 3rd week of Oct. due to statutory requirements

The Departments recommendations for Area 6 are to return to the original NOI (indicated in red) as amended during the April 1 Commission meeting as noted below:

	Archery	Muzzleloader	Still Hunt	Dogs allowed
6	Oct. 16-Feb. 15 <u>North of Hwy. 90</u> Oct. 1-Jan. 31 South of Hwy. 90 No changes	Oct. 30-Nov. 5 Dec. 6-10 Jan. 24-31 No change	Nov. 6-Dec. 10 Nov. 20-Dec. 5	Dec. 11-Jan. 23 No change

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004-05 Special Youth Deer Hunt
on Private Lands for Deer Area 6

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

Whereas R. S. 56:116D mandates that the Commission establish a special open deer hunting season for youth under sixteen years of age, and further mandates that the season shall be limited to a weekend prior to the opening weekend of the regular gun season in all applicable zones, the following dates for a special youth deer season have been recommended by the Department for Deer Hunting in Area 6: October 23-24, 2004. This action is necessitated by the Commission's action on July 1, 2004 to open the regular gun season in Area 6 two weeks earlier than previously set, thereby overlapping the previously promulgated special youth hunt. Therefore, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates:

Special Youth Deer Hunt on Private Lands for Area 6 - October 23-24, 2004

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient

time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."

For immediate release

Contact: Randy Lanctot; 225/344-6707

lwf@lawildlifefed.org; web: www.lawildlifefed.org



State Conservation Group Objects to Deer Harvest Regulation Change, Urges Wildlife Commission to Make Procedural Changes for Setting Hunting Seasons

In advance of the August (5) meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (Commission), the Louisiana Wildlife Federation (LWF) has asked the Commission to revise its proposed modification of the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) rules and to adopt operating procedure to prevent the enactment of last minute changes to hunting seasons and other regulations. In a letter to the Commission, LWF President E. R. "Smitty" Smith of New Iberia asked the Commission to back off of the DMAP rule change that would allow some hunters to harvest more than the season limit of six deer. Smith said that the proposed rule is a significant policy change that has the potential effect of giving certain hunters an excessive or disproportionate share of the resource and is fundamentally discriminatory. "The authorization to harvest the legal limit of deer in Louisiana is conveyed to the individual through the issuance of a hunting license, not through enrollment in a deer management program or even by virtue of property ownership," Smith wrote in his July 30 letter. Under the proposed rule, a hunter taking doe deer according to the rules on DMAP lands could legally harvest more than the standard 6 deer per season.

The LWF's second recommendation was provoked by the unusual action the Commission took at its July meeting when it made substantive changes to several of the proposed hunting season dates and then adopted those changes as law. "By presenting and ratifying critical changes affecting the hunting public, at one meeting on one day, without prior notice or ample opportunity to comment, the Commission acted contrary to the spirit of public participation in the rulemaking process as envisioned by the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act," Smith said. The LWF recommended that the Commission adopt a policy to refrain from making any substantive adjustments to a proposed rule at the same meeting when the rule is finally ratified, except when warranted by a real emergency or in light of substantive and compelling biological or economic information that has just recently become available and that would make it prudent to adjust the rule before final ratification.

The LWF also recommended that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries review the feasibility of advancing the rulemaking process for establishing the seasons and bag limits for fall-hunted resident game species so that such rules are adopted at least 6 months prior to the onset of the seasons. According to Smith, that would avoid short-notice changes in seasons that disrupt vacation and hunt plans of sportsmen, many of whom have to schedule their vacations well in advance of the fall hunting seasons.

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation is a statewide conservation education and advocacy organization with over 13,000 members and 35 affiliated groups throughout Louisiana. Established in 1940, it is affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation and represents a broad constituency of conservationists including hunters, fishers, birders, boaters and other outdoor enthusiasts. For more information visit www.lawildlifefed.org.



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."

30 July 2004



Mr. Bill A. Busbice, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
116-C Jean Baptiste Drive
Lafayette, LA 70503

Dear Chairman Busbice:

At its July 2004 meeting, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission took the unusual action of making substantive changes to several of the proposed hunting season dates and then adopting those changes as law. By presenting and ratifying critical changes, affecting the hunting public, at one meeting, on one day, without prior notice, or ample opportunity to comment, the LWFC acted contrary to the spirit of public participation in the rulemaking process as envisioned by the Louisiana Administrative Procedures Act. To avoid such unfortunate occurrences in the future, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation requests that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission adopt and adhere to a policy regarding the rulemaking process that would prevent such last minute changes from occurring in the future. Specifically, we recommend that it should be the policy of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to refrain from making any substantive adjustments to a proposed rule at the meeting when the rule is finally ratified, except when warranted by a real emergency or in light substantive and compelling biological or economic information that has just recently become available and that would make it prudent to adjust the rule before final ratification.

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation further requests that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries review the feasibility of advancing the rulemaking process for the seasons and bag limits for fall-hunted resident game species so that such rules are adopted at least 6 months prior to the onset of the seasons. Applying such an advance rulemaking process would avoid short-notice changes in seasons that disrupt vacation and hunt plans of sportsmen, many of whom have to schedule their vacations well in advance of the fall hunting seasons.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours in conservation,

E. R. "Smitty" Smith, III
President

C. Mr. Dwight Landreneau
Mr. Dave Moreland



LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

"...conserving our natural resources and your right to enjoy them."

30 July 2004



Mr. Bill A. Busbice, Chairman
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
116-C Jean Baptiste Drive.
Lafayette, LA 70503

Dear Commissioner Busbice:

At its June 2004 meeting, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission adopted a Notice of Intent to modify the rules governing the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP). The provisions of the proposed rule change include a waiver of the 6-deer per season limit for hunters participating in a state sanctioned DMAP program to the extent that none of the does harvested and tagged on DMAP lands will count toward filling the season limit of the harvester. Consequently, a single hunter taking does according to the rules on DMAP lands could legally harvest more than the standard 6-deer season bag limit.

The authorization to harvest the legal limit of deer in Louisiana is conveyed to the individual through the issuance of a hunting license, not through enrollment in a deer management program or even by virtue of property ownership. The proposed rule is a significant policy change that has the potential effect of giving certain hunters an excessive or disproportionate share of the resource, and is fundamentally discriminatory. The Louisiana Wildlife Federation opposes this aspect of the proposed modification of the rules governing the DMAP Program and urges the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission delete that provision from the proposed rule. If there is a need to harvest more does, then consideration should be given to increasing the season limit on does for all licensed big game hunters. Options are currently available to DMAP cooperators to harvest their quota of does.

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation is a statewide conservation education and advocacy organization with over 13,000 members and 30 affiliated groups throughout Louisiana. Established in 1940, it is affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation and represents a broad constituency of conservationists including hunters, fishers, birders, boaters and other outdoor enthusiasts. For more information visit www.lawildlifefed.org. Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Yours in conservation,

E. R. "Smitty" Smith, III
President

C Mr. Dwight Landreneau
Mr. David Moreland

Falcon, Susan

From: L Brent Stephens [lbstephens@outdrs.net]
Sent: Monday, August 02, 2004 11:57 AM
To: jerryandkaystone@aol.com; Denmon_TD@wlf.state.la.us; henrymouton@star-services.com; dw@wlf.state.la.us
Subject: new DMAP regulation

Dear Commission member

It was brought to my attention that there is a proposal to allow DMAP clubs to take unlimited antlerless deer and not count against the season bag limits.

I am a long time hunter and practice deer management, but to allow these clubs to take unlimited numbers seem to be extreme. Also, the ability for them to change over to LADT and not having to report the number of deer taken is giving them the invitation to slaughter the deer herd. Just how are these clubs going to be checked? Being in hunting clubs and hearing comments made by hunters frighten me knowing that they will shoot anything and everything "brown". I cannot be convinced that this will be a good thing to do.

I understand that clubs are not filling their doe tags and you are desperate to have doe numbers lowered, but giving up the monitoring will, in my opinion, open these clubs up for wholesale slaughter.

Consider, if you will, at least keeping the tag requirement and recording of the kill. At best I think that this will keep certain hunters in check.

Please consider voting against the proposal in the October meeting.

Concerned Deer Hunter

Brent Stephens
Baton Rouge, LA

8/2/2004

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission Meeting held in Baton Rouge LA, August 5, 2004.

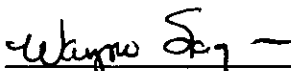
WHEREAS, it is the constitutional responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for wild turkeys, and

WHEREAS, authority to establish seasons, bag limits, possession limits and other rules and regulations for the hunting, taking and possession of any species of wild game birds is vested in the Commission by R.S. 56:115, and

WHEREAS, this action will provide for the protection and conservation of wild turkeys and allow for recreational opportunities for sport hunting on both public and private lands, and

WHEREAS, the Commission and Department staff have jointly reviewed and considered all available biological information, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached rules, regulations, season dates, and bag limits affecting sport hunting of wild turkeys are hereby adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission as a Notice of Intent.



Wayne Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
LA Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the turkey rules and regulations for the ~~2004~~ 2005 season.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§113. Turkey Hunting Regulations

A. Daily limit is one gobbler, two gobblers per season. Taking of hen turkeys, including bearded hens, is illegal. Still hunting only. Use of dogs, baiting, electronic calling devices and live decoys is illegal. Turkeys may be hunted with shotguns, including muzzleloading shotguns, using shot not larger than #2 lead or BB steel shot, and bow and arrow but by no other means. Shooting turkeys from a moving or stationary vehicle is prohibited. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells prohibited.

B. No person shall hunt, trap or take turkeys by the aid of baiting or on or over any baited area. Baiting means placing, exposing, depositing or scattering of corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed so as to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take turkeys.

C. A baited area is any area where corn (shelled, shucked or unshucked), wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed capable of luring, attracting or enticing turkeys is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered. Such areas remain baited areas for 15 days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed.

D. Wildlife agents are authorized to close such baited areas and to place signs in the immediate vicinity designating closed zones and dates of closure.

E. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries strongly discourages feeding agricultural grains to wild turkeys as this practice increases the risk of birds contracting potentially lethal diseases. Repeatedly placing grain in the same area may expose otherwise healthy birds to disease contaminated soils, grain containing lethal toxins and other diseased turkeys using the same feeding site. Properly distributed food plots (clovers, wheat, millet and chufa) are far more desirable for turkeys and have the added benefit of appealing to a wide variety of wildlife.

F. It is unlawful to take from the wild or possess in captivity any live wild turkeys or their eggs. No pen raised turkeys from within or without the state shall be liberated (released) within the state.

G. All licensed turkey hunters are required to have a Turkey Stamp in their possession while turkey hunting in addition to basic and big game hunting licenses. Additionally, a WMA Hunting Permit

is required of any person (age 18-59) who hunts on land administered by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, including Wildlife Management Areas, Wildlife Refuges, and Habitat Conservation Areas.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30: .

§115. Statewide Turkey Hunting Areas-Resident Game Birds and Animals

A. Shooting hours: one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

SPECIES	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Turkey	See Schedule	1	2/Season

B. Turkey season will open in designated areas on the fourth Saturday in March. The Area A turkey season will be 30 consecutive days in length, the Area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the Area C turkey season will be 9 consecutive days in length. Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. Deviation from this framework may occur in those years when the fourth Saturday in March falls the day before Easter.

C. Statewide Youth Turkey Season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the statewide turkey season. Only youths younger than 16 years of age may hunt. Youth must possess a hunter safety certification or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course. Each youth must be accompanied by one adult 18 years of age or older. If the accompanying adult is in possession of hunter safety certification, a valid hunting license or proof of successful completion of a hunter safety course, this requirement is waived for the youth. Adults may not possess a firearm or bow. Youths may possess only one firearm or bow while hunting. Legal weapons and shot are the same as described for the turkey season. The supervising adult shall maintain visual and voice contact with the youth at all times. An adult may supervise only one youth during this special hunt. Only one gobbler per day may be taken and any gobbler taken by the youth during this special season counts towards their seasonal bag limit of 2.

D. ~~2004~~ 2005 Turkey Hunting Schedule

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 25 <u>24</u>
B	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 18 <u>17</u>
C	March 27 <u>25</u> - April 4 <u>3</u>
Private Lands Youth Hunt	March 20 <u>19</u> - 21 <u>20</u>

E. ~~2004~~ 2005 Turkey Hunting Season - Open Only in the Following Areas

1. Area A - March ~~27~~ 25 - April ~~25~~ 24
 - a. All of the following parishes are open:
 - i. Beauregard;

- ii. East Baton Rouge;
- iii. East Feliciana;
- iv. LaSalle;
- v. Livingston;
- vi. Natchitoches (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

- vii. Sabine;
- viii. St. Helena;
- ix. St. Tammany;
- x. Tangipahoa;
- xi. Vernon (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

- xii. Washington;
- xiii. West Baton Rouge;
- xiv. West Feliciana (including Raccourci Island).

- xv. Winn (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are also open:

- i. Allen: North of LA 104, west of LA 26 south of junction of LA 104 to US 190, north of US 190 east of Kinder, west of US 165 south of Kinder;

- ii. Avoyelles: That portion bounded on the east by the Atchafalaya River, on the north by Red River to the

Brouillette Community, on the west by LA 452 from Brouillette to LA 1, on the south by LA 1, eastward to Hamburg, thence by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection levee southward;

iii. Calcasieu: North of I-10;

iv. Caldwell: West of Ouachita River southward to Catahoula Parish line, ~~east of LA 165 from LaSalle Parish line to the junction of LA 126, north of LA 126 westward to the Winn Parish line;~~

v. Catahoula: West of Ouachita River southward to LA 559 at Duty Ferry, north of LA 559 to LA 124, south and west of LA 124 from Duty Ferry to LA 8 at Harrisonburg and north and west of LA 8 to LaSalle Parish line ~~LA 126, north and east of LA 126.~~ ALSO that portion lying east of LA 15;

vi. Concordia: That portion east of LA 15 and west of US 65 from its juncture with LA 15 at Clayton;

vii. Evangeline: North and west of LA 115, north of LA 106 from St. Landry to LA 13, west of LA 13 from Pine Prairie to Mamou and north of LA 104 west of Mamou;

viii. Franklin: That portion lying east of LA 17 and east of LA 15 from its juncture with LA 17 at Winnsboro;

ix. Grant: All of the parish except that portion of land that lies north of the Red River between US 71 and LA 8. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates;

x. Iberville: West of LA 1. EXCEPTION: see

Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries;

xi. Jefferson Davis: North of US 190 from junction with LA 26 to Kinder, west of US 165 and north of I-10 west from junction of US 165;

xii. Madison: That portion lying east ~~west~~ of US 65 from East Carroll Parish line to US 80 and south of US 80. Also, all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

xiii. Pointe Coupee: All of the parish except that portion bounded on the north by LA Hwy. 1, from Innis to the junction of LA Hwy 417, on the west by LA Hwy. 417 southward toward McCrea, on the south by LA Hwy. 417 from McCrea to its junction with Delhi Lane, then by Delhi Lane to LA Hwy. 418, then LA Hwy. 418 northward to LA Hwy. 1 at Innis. EXCEPTION: see Sherburne WMA for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne boundaries.

xiv. Rapides: All of the parish except that portion of lands that lies north of the Red River and south of US 71 from its juncture with the Red River northward to the Grant Parish line. Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest season dates;

xv. Richland: That portion south of US 80 and east of LA 17;

xvi. St. Landry: That portion bounded on the west by the West Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee and on the east

by the Atchafalaya River. EXCEPTION: the Indian Bayou Area, see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou Area dates;

xvii. Upper St. Martin: All within the Atchafalaya Basin. EXCEPTIONS: Sherburne WMA and Indian Bayou Area, see WMA Turkey Hunting Schedule for special season dates on all state, federal and private lands within Sherburne WMA boundaries and see Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Indian Bayou dates;

xviii. Tensas: That portion west of US 65 from the Concordia Parish line to its juncture with LA 128, north of LA 128 to St. Joseph; west and north of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry. Also all lands east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;

2. Area B - March ~~27~~ 25 - April ~~18~~ 17

a. All of the following parishes are open:

- i. Bienville;
- ii. Bossier;
- iii. Caddo;
- iv. Claiborne (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);
- v. DeSoto;
- vi. Jackson;
- vii. Lincoln;
- viii. Red River;
- ix. Union;

x. Webster (Exception: See Federal Lands Hunting Schedule for Kisatchie National Forest dates);

b. Portions of the following parishes are open:

i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;

ii. East Carroll: East of US 65 from Arkansas state line to Madison Parish line;

iii. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River;

ii iv. Ouachita: East of LA 143 from Union Parish line to US 80 in West Monroe, north of US 80 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to the Morehouse Parish line;

~~iii. Madison: South of US 80 and east of US 65 to Tensas Parish line and all lands lying east of the main channel of the Mississippi River;~~

iv. Morehouse: West of US 165 from the Arkansas line to Bonita, north and west of LA 140 to junction of LA 830-4 (Cooper Lake Road), west of LA 830-4 to US 165, north of US 165 to LA 139, west of LA 139 to Ouachita Parish line;

3. Area C - March ~~27~~ 25 - April ~~4~~ 3

a. Portions of the following parishes are open:

~~i. Ascension: All east of the Mississippi River;~~

ii. Catahoula: That portion lying south of Deer Creek to Boeuf River, east of Boeuf and Ouachita Rivers to LA

8 at Harrisonburg, west and north of LA 8 to LA ~~913~~ 15, west of ~~LA~~
~~913~~ and LA 15 to Deer Creek;

iii. Concordia: North and east of Sugar Mill Chute (Concordia Parish) from the state line westward to Red River, east of Red River northward to Cocodrie Bayou, east of Cocodrie Bayou northward to US 84, south of US 84 eastward to LA 15 (Ferriday), east of LA 15 northward to US 65 (Clayton), east of US 65 northward to Tensas Parish line;

~~iv~~ iii. Franklin: That portion lying west of LA 17, from Richland Parish line to LA 577 at Crowville, north of LA 577 to LA 15 at Baskin, east of LA 15 to Big Creek, and south and east of Big Creek to Richland Parish line. Also, that portion east of Turkey Creek Lake, Turkey Creek and Boeuf River, north of Deer Creek, west of LA 15 and south of LA 562;

~~v. Iberville: All east of the Mississippi River,~~

~~vi~~ iv. Richland: West of LA 17 from Franklin Parish line to Ringle Rd., south of Ringle Rd. to Ferguson Rd., south of Ferguson Rd. to Little Rd., south of Little Rd. to Big Creek, east of Big Creek to Franklin Parish line;

vii. Tensas: East and south of US 65 from Concordia Parish line to LA 128, south of LA 128 to St. Joseph, east and south of LA 605, 604 and 3078 northward to Port Gibson Ferry.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30: .

§117. ~~2004~~ 2005 Wildlife Management Area Turkey - Hunting Regulations

A. General

1. The following rules and regulations concerning management, protection and harvest of wildlife have been officially approved and adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission in accordance with the authority provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, Section 109 of Title 56. Failure to comply with these regulations will subject the individual to citation and/or expulsion from the management area.

2. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed are open to turkey hunting.

3. ATVs, ATCs and motorcycles cannot be left overnight on WMAs EXCEPT in designated camping areas. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after sunset to 3:00 AM. All roads including trails and roads designated as ATV only trails shall be closed to ATVs from March 1 through August 31 unless otherwise specified. ATV off-road or off-trail travel is prohibited. Certain trails may be open during this time period to provide access for fishing or other purposes. These trails will be marked by signs at the entrance of

the trail. Otherwise, only walk-in hunting is permitted (bicycles permitted).

4. Bag limits on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey is allowed to be taken during special lottery hunts.

B. Permits

1. Self-Clearing Permits: All turkey hunts, including lottery hunts, are self-clearing. Hunters must check in daily by obtaining a permit from a self-clearing station prior to hunting. The self-clearing permit must be in the hunter's possession while hunting. Upon completion of each days hunt, the hunter must check out by completing and depositing the hunter report portion of the permit in the check-out box at a self-clearing station before exiting the WMA.

2. Lottery Hunts: Bayou Macon, Boise-Vernon, Loggy Bayou, Sabine, Sherburne, Sicily Island, Tunica Hills, Union and West Bay WMAs are restricted to those persons selected as a result of the pre-application lottery. Special youth only lottery hunts will be held on Big Lake, Bens Creek, Fort Polk/Peason Ridge, Jackson-Bienville, Loggy Bayou, Sherburne, Union and West Bay WMAs. Deadline for receiving applications for all lottery hunts is February ~~13~~ 15, ~~2004~~ 2005. An application fee of \$5 must be sent with each application. Applicants may submit only one application and will be selected for one WMA Turkey Lottery Hunt annually. Submitting more than one application will result in

disqualification. Contact any district office for applications. Hunters must abide by self-clearing permit requirements. Youths chosen for special youth only hunts will be guided by members of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation. One family member may accompany the youth and guide, but may not hunt.

C. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule*

WMA	Season Dates	Permit Requirements	Lottery Dates**
Bayou Macon	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>	Self-Clearing	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>
Bens Creek ¹	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 18 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Big Lake	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Bodcau	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boeuf	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Boise Vernon	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-25 <u>2-24</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>
Camp Beauregard	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Fort Polk	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Grassy Lake	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Hutchinson Creek	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Jackson-Bienville	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Lake Ramsey	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Little River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Loggy Bayou	April 17-18 <u>16-17</u>	Self-Clearing	April 17-18 <u>16-17</u>
Pearl River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 18 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Peason Ridge	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Pomme de Terre	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 11 <u>10</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Red River	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sabine	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u>

	April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>		April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>
Sandy Hollow ¹	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 10 <u>17</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Sherburne ²	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> March 29-31 <u>28-30</u>
Sicily Island	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-29 <u>25-28</u> March 30-April-1 <u>29-31</u> April 2-4 <u>1-3</u>
Three Rivers	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 4 <u>3</u>	Self-Clearing	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18 <u>11-17</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18
Tunica Hills Angola Tract ³	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18 <u>11-17</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u> April 10-11 <u>9-10</u> April 17-18
Union	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>	Self-Clearing	April 10-11 <u>9-10</u>
Walnut Hills	March 27 <u>25</u> -April 25 <u>24</u>	Self-Clearing	None
West Bay	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>	Self-Clearing	March 27-28 <u>25-27</u> April 3-4 <u>2-3</u>

*Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed have a turkey hunting season. All other areas are closed.

**The deadline for receiving applications for all turkey Lottery Hunts on WMAs is February 15, 2005.

¹No turkey hunting within 100 yards of food plots identified by two yellow paint rings around the nearest tree.

²All turkeys harvested on Sherburne WMA must be weighed and checked at WMA headquarters.

³Scouting access limited. Contact Region 7 office for details (225) 765-2360.

D. Wildlife Management Area Youth Hunts

WMA	Lottery Youth Hunt Date
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Bens Creek	March 20 19
Big Lake	March 20 19
Fort Polk/Peason Ridge	March 20 19
Jackson-Bienville	March 20 19
Loggy Bayou	April 10 9
Sherburne	March 20 19
Union	April 2
West Bay	March 20 19

E. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March 27 25-April 11 10; all remaining KNF lands, March 27 25-April 10 17 (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. Indian Bayou Area (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), turkey hunting schedule: March 20 19 handicap only hunt, March 27 25 - April 4 3, lottery hunt only on March 27 25 - 28 27 and March 29 28 - 31 30. Contact USCOE at 337-585-0853 for further information.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March 27 25 - April 25 24; Lake Ophelia NWR, March 27 25 - 29 April 1 (lottery only), April 3 2 - 25 24; Tensas NWR, March 20 19 - 21 20 (youth lottery only), March 27 25 - April 11 10. Contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for information regarding NWR hunts.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission LR 25:2265 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2636 (November 2000), LR 27:2272

(December 2001), LR 28:2377 (November 2002), LR 29:2514 (November 2003), LR 30: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of intent and the final rule, including but not limited to, the filing of the fiscal and economic impact statements, the filing of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed rule to Mr. David Moreland, Administrator, Wildlife Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000, until Wednesday, October 6, 2004.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Marine Fisheries Division

2004

OYSTER STOCK ASSESSMENT REPORT

**ON THE PUBLIC SEED GROUNDS,
SEED RESERVATIONS, AND TONGING AREAS**



Oyster Data Report Series

No. 10

July, 2004

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INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The oyster resource in Louisiana is one of the largest and most valuable in the nation. Its value is derived from both the economic benefits it provides to the state and the ecological benefits it provides to the estuarine environment. Due to Louisiana's vast coastal wetland area, ample habitat exists where oysters thrive under a variety of environmental conditions. The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) is charged with managing the oyster resource on the public grounds by closely monitoring the size and health of oysters on approximately 2 million acres of public water bottoms.

Oysters have been a part of the Louisiana economy for many years; starting from meager beginnings and growing into a multi-million dollar industry. In 2003, the dockside value of oysters totaled roughly 33 million dollars and harvest yielded nearly 14 million pounds of meat. Typically, the oyster industry utilizes the public oyster grounds as a source of seed oysters for transplant to private leases (Figure 1). The public grounds, however, also yield a supply of sack-sized oysters and these oysters may be taken directly to market. The manner in which both the public grounds and private leases are utilized in combination helps to keep Louisiana's industry viable. In fact, Louisiana regularly leads the nation in the production of oysters and accounted for an average of 33% of the nation's oyster landings from 1997-2002 (Figure 1).

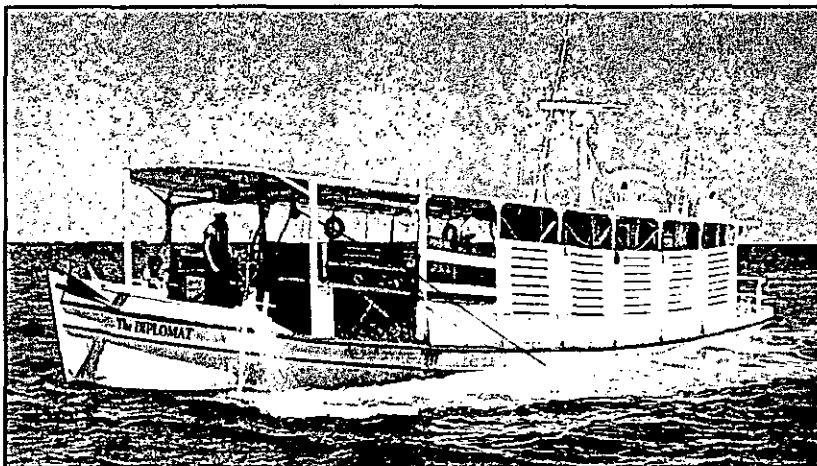


Figure 1. The oyster lugger, The Diplomat, harvests seed oysters from the Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservation during the open season in 2003.

Oysters also play an important ecological role in the estuarine ecosystem. Oyster reefs provide the majority of hard substrate required by other sessile invertebrate species such as barnacles, bryozoans, tunicates, and anemones. Reefs are also utilized as shelter and forage habitat for many species of crabs, worms, fish, and meiofauna. Estuarine water quality can be affected by the filter-feeding activities of oysters and reefs may also play a role in stabilizing shorelines.

Each summer, LDWF biologists from the Marine Fisheries Division perform quantitative evaluation of the oyster resource on the public oyster areas. This biological evaluation includes using SCUBA to collect replicate square meter samples from areas of each public seed ground, seed reservation, and tonging area. The public ground oyster season generally opens in early September and runs through March or April of the following year. Square-meter sampling is conducted each July in order to assess the stock size of the resource and to make

recommendations to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission for the setting of the oyster season. Although the public oyster areas are managed to provide seed oysters ($< 3''$) for leaseholders to transplant to privately leased areas, the public reefs also yield a supply of sack oysters ($\geq 3''$) that can be sold directly at market.

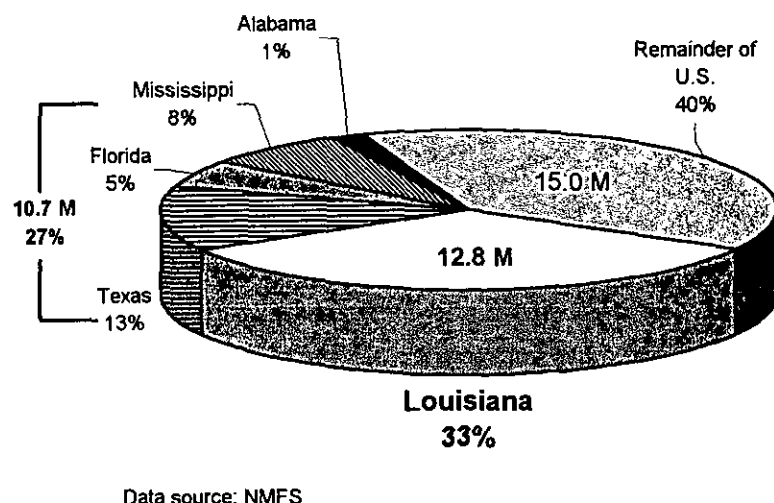


Figure 2. Average 1997 - 2002 oyster landings (all species combined, pounds of meat).

small increase in sack oyster stocks was also noted, rising 236,545 barrels in 2004 over 2003 estimates (Figure 3).

The public oyster grounds are a strong contributor to overall Louisiana oyster landings each year. This is in sharp contrast to the trend from 1970 - 1992 when the majority of Louisiana oyster landings came from private reefs. Since 1992, however, the public ground stock size has increased, in general, and landings from the public grounds increased as well. Although the trend since 1992 shows an increased reliance of the oyster industry on the public grounds, recent decreases in public ground stock size has lead to decreased harvest from the public grounds in 2003 (Figure 4).

The following report includes both biological and historical production data from each coastal study area (CSA) in Louisiana. Biological data was generated from quantitative square-meter sampling (see above) and production data was generated from boarding runs and trip ticket information. Questions and/or comments can be directed to individual CSA supervisors, Patrick Banks at (225) 765-2370, or Marty Bourgeois at (225) 765-2401.

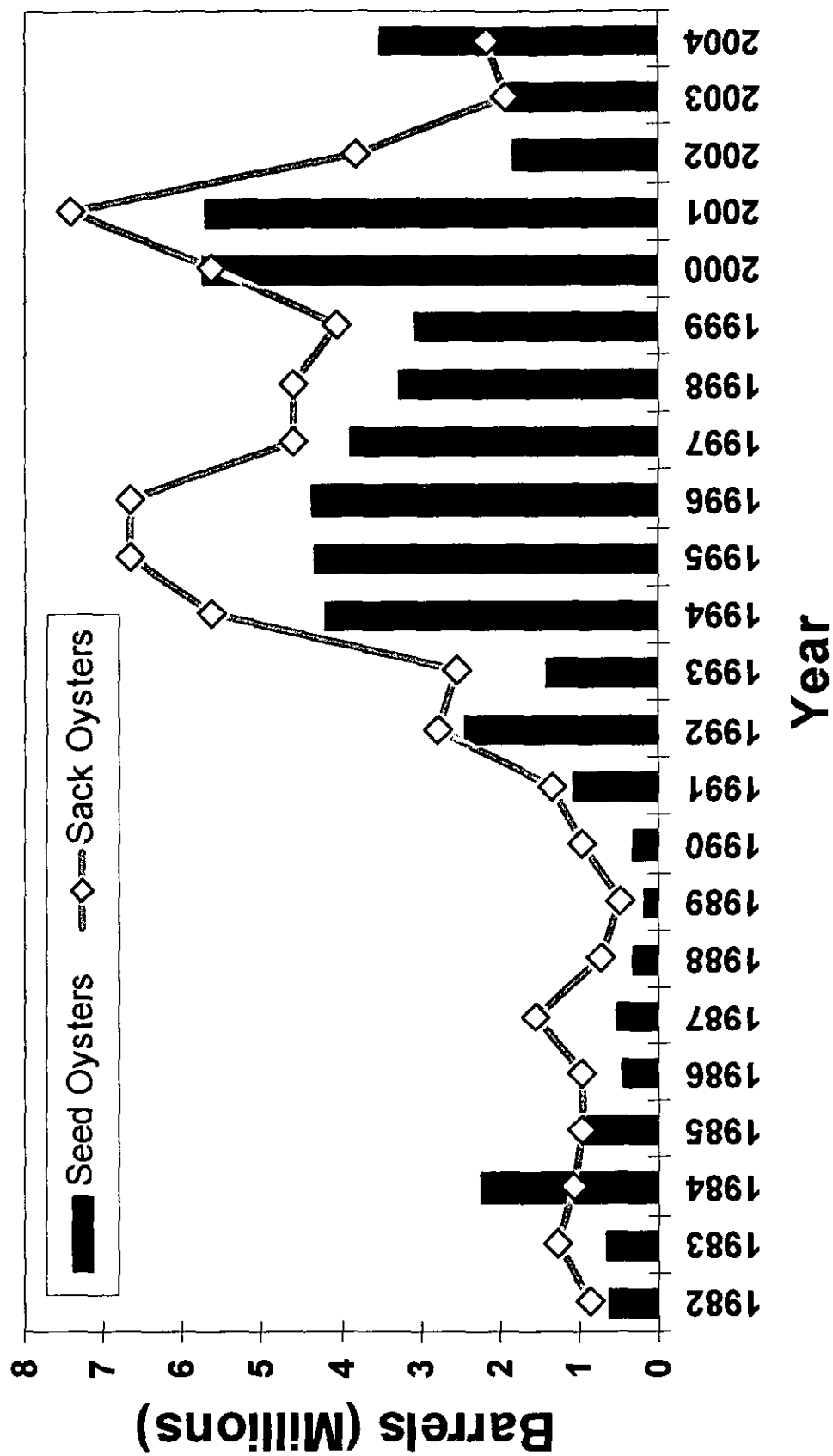


Figure 3. Historical Louisiana oyster stock size (estimated based on square meter sample analysis).

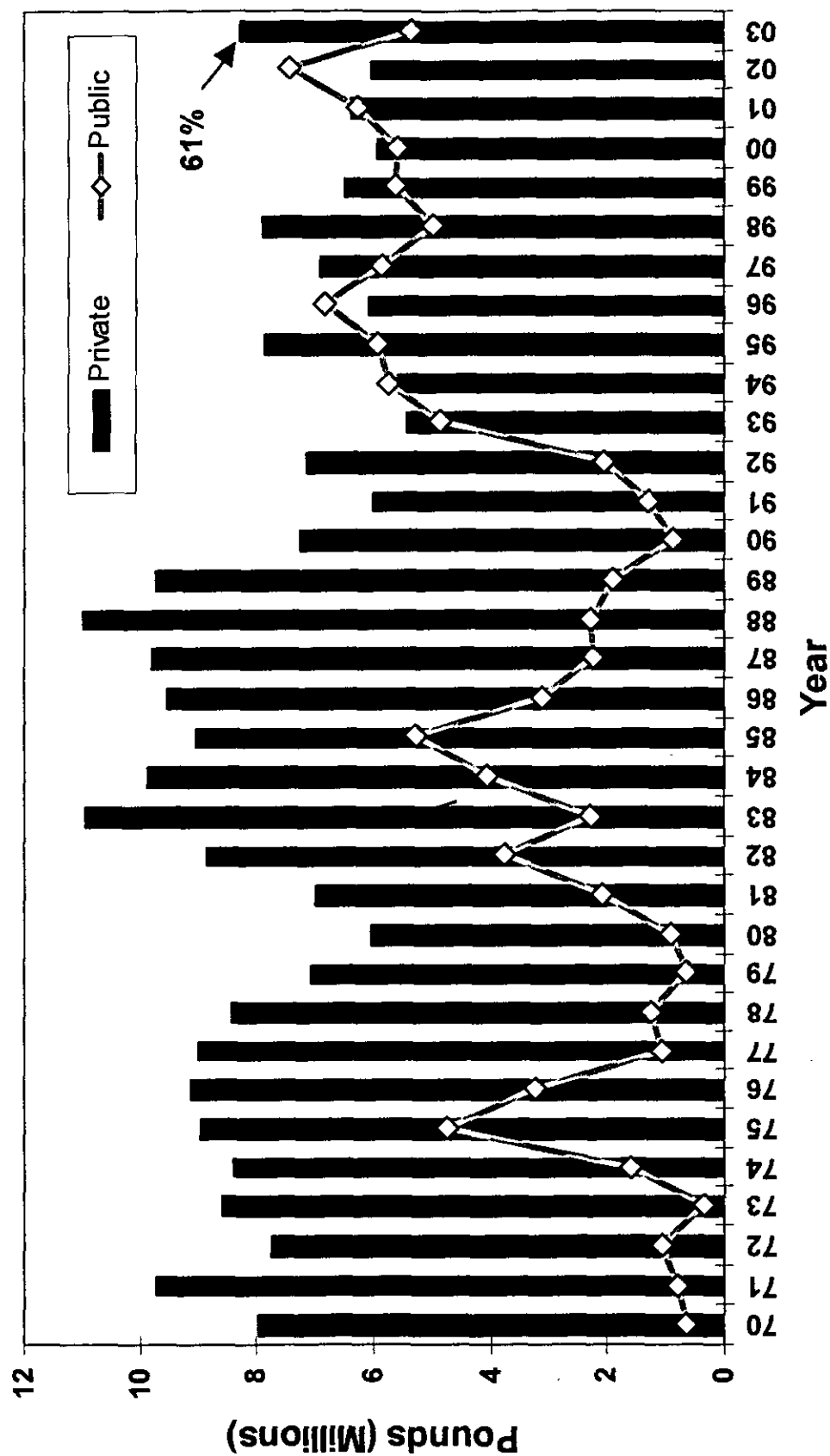


Figure 4. Historical Louisiana oyster landings (NMFS and LDWF data).

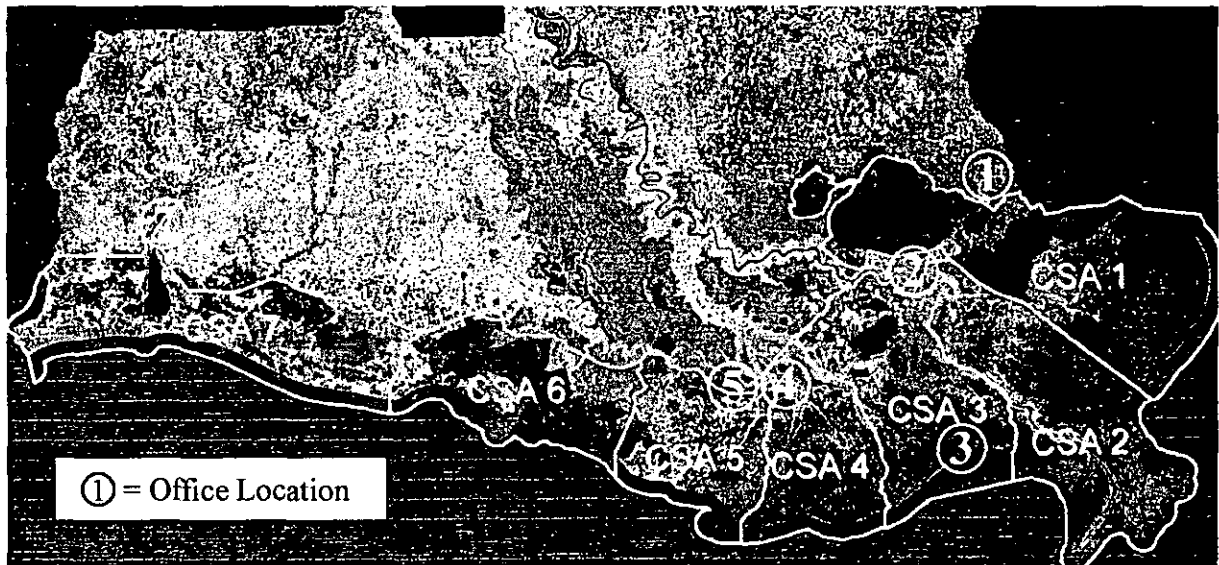
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Vermilion/Cote Blanche/Atchafalaya Bays

Sabine Lake

Y

LDWF Marine Fisheries' Coastal Study Areas (CSAs)



CSA	<i>Biologist Supervisor</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>FAX Number</i>
1	Keith Ibos	52282 Hwy. 90 Slidell, LA 70461	(985) 646-6441	(985) 646-6481
2	Clarence Luquet	1600 Canal Street New Orleans, LA 70112	(504) 568-5688	(504) 568-2048
3	Brian Hardcastle	P.O. Box 37 Grand Isle, LA 70358	(985) 787-2163	(985) 787-4517
4	Vince Guillory	P.O. Box 189 Bourg, LA 70343	(985) 594-4130	(985) 594-7317
5	Steve Hein	P.O. Box 189 Bourg, LA 70343	(985) 594-7621	(985) 594-7317
6	Paul Cook	2415 Darnall Road New Iberia, LA 70560	(337) 373-0032	(337) 373-0032
7	Michael Harbison	1213 N. Lakeshore Drive Lake Charles, LA 70601	(337) 491-2573	(337) 491-2009

CSA I

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000
(225) 765-2800

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patrick Banks, Biologist Supervisor

FROM: Keith Ibos, Biologist Supervisor
Coastal Study Area 1

SUBJECT: CSA 1 Meter Square Samples 2004

Coastal Study Area 1 completed the 2004 meter square sampling project on June 23. Eleven stations at the following sites were sampled: Cabbage reef, Grand Pass, Turkey Bayou, Three Mile Pass, Half Moon Island, the 2000 Shell Plant, Hospital Wall, Martin Island, Holmes Island, Petit Pass, and Little Grassy Island. A square meter sample with one additional replicate was taken at each site. An average of the two samples and predetermined acreage was used to estimate seed and market oyster stock.

Samples this year indicate current stock of 1,965,408 barrels seed and 1,201,273 barrels sack for a combined total of 3,166,681 barrels. Relative to 2003, seed stock is up by 1,280,332 barrels (187% increase); sack stock is up by 603,797 barrels (101% increase). Compared to the past ten year average (1994-2003), seed availability is up 79%, and sack availability is up 19%.

Overall spat set was low. Spat, present in six of eleven stations, were lower than last year with the exception of Grand Pass and Cabbage Reef. Survival in some areas of the Public Seed Grounds was affected by low salinities.

Adult hooked mussels (*Ischadium recurvum*) were present in the six stations from Petit Island to Turkey Bayou. Large amounts of juvenile mussels were observed in the Grassy Island and Turkey Bayou samples. No mussels were found at Grand Pass or Cabbage Reef.

"Dermo" (*Perkinsus marinus*) samples were collected on July 2, 2004 from Three Mile Pass and Cabbage Reef. Sack and seed size oysters were provided to Dr. John Supan for analysis. The results are not yet available.

Although there were no oyster drills in the Meter Square samples, the oyster drill *Stamonita* (*Thias*) was observed in the Cabbage Reef Dermo samples.

Recent mortality in both seed and sack oysters averaged less than 5 percent across the area. In the Cabbage, Grand Pass, and Turkey Bayou area mortality averaged 1.3% in seed and 4.0% in sack. At Three Mile Pass mortality was 4.7% in seed and 0% in sack. In the Half Moon Island, 2000 Shell Plant, Little Grassy Island, and Petit Pass area mortality averaged 7.2% in seed, and 0 % in sack.

In January of 2004, three additions to the Lake Borgne Public Oyster Seed Grounds were established. Boarding reports were conducted from January through April to monitor the harvest of seed and sack oysters from the area. In those four months an estimated 34,372 sacks of market, and 20,645 barrels of seed were harvested. Dredge sampling was started in the new areas. Square meter samples were not conducted in these areas, as the total acreage has not yet been established. Heavy mussel infestation was observed throughout Lake Borgne.

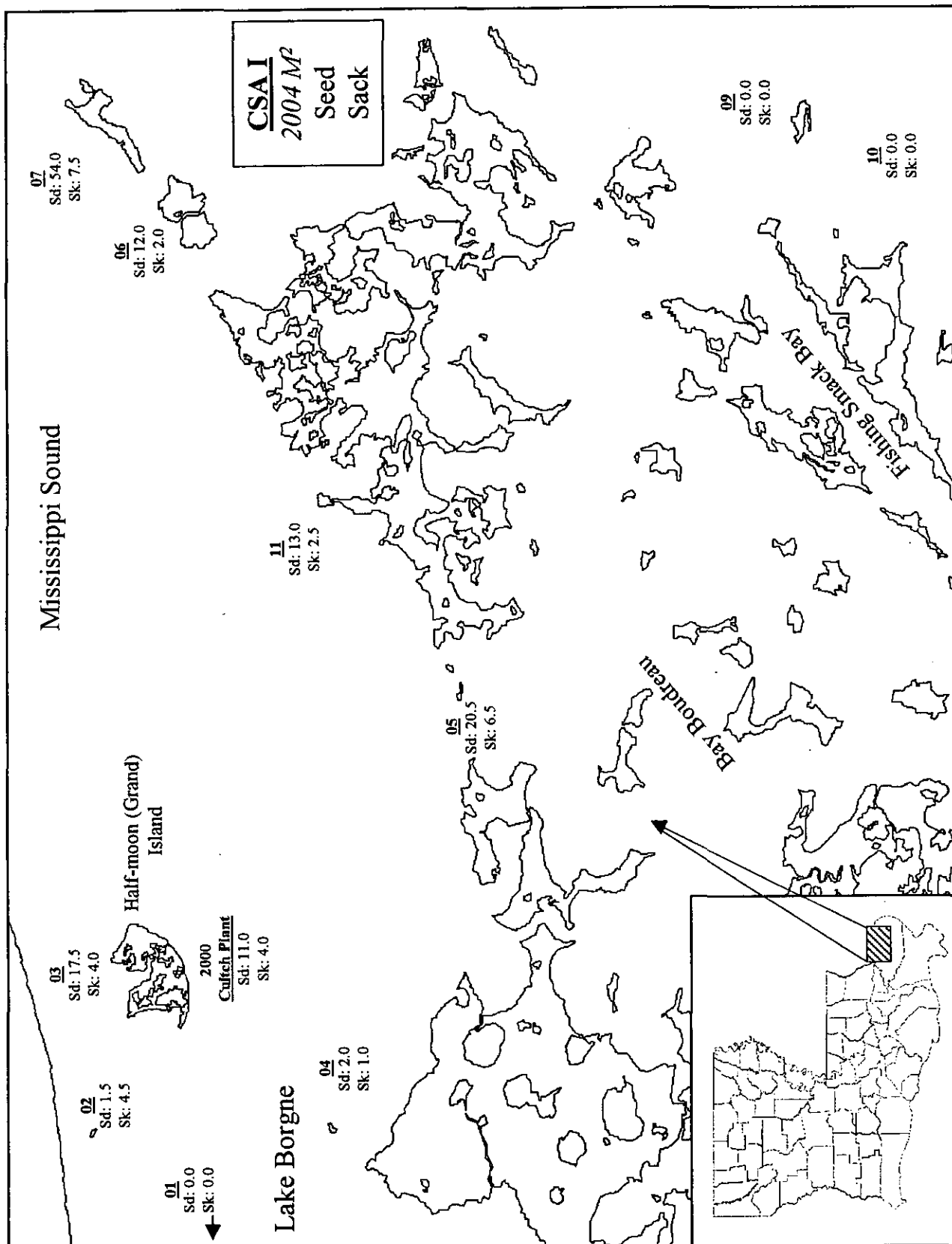


Table 1.1. 2004 oyster availability in Coastal Study Area I.

Meter Square Station	Reef Acreage	# Square Meters	Avg Seed Oysters per frame	Avg Sack Oysters per frame	BBLS Seed	BBLS Sack	Mussels	Spat	Drills Present
1	Hospital	1,521,955.29	0	0	0	0		0	
2	Grassy		1.5	4.5			90A, 545J	0	
3	Halfmoon		17.5	4			190A	1	
4	Petit		2	1			210A	0	
2-4		6850.17	21	9.5	808,577	731,570			
5	3 Mile	3058.65	20.5	6.5	352,439	223,498	21A	2.5	
6	Grand Pass		12	2				10.5	
7	Cabbage		54	7.5				21	
8	Dropped								
11	Turkey		13	2.5				38.5A, 374.5J	6
6-11		1801.76	79	12	800,064	243,057			
9	Martin Is		0	0					
10	Holmes Is		0	0					
9-10		4155.7	0	0	0	0		0	
	Lake Pont	631.27	0	0	0	0		0	
	2000 Shell Plant	70	11	4	4,328	3,148	82.5A, 0.5J	0.5	
			Totals		1,965,408	1,201,273			
			Combined		3,166,681				

Adult mussels (> 15mm) indicated as average number per frame followed by the letter "A"

Juvenile mussels indicated as average number frame followed by the letter "J"

Numbers do reflect availability in Lake Borgne.

net

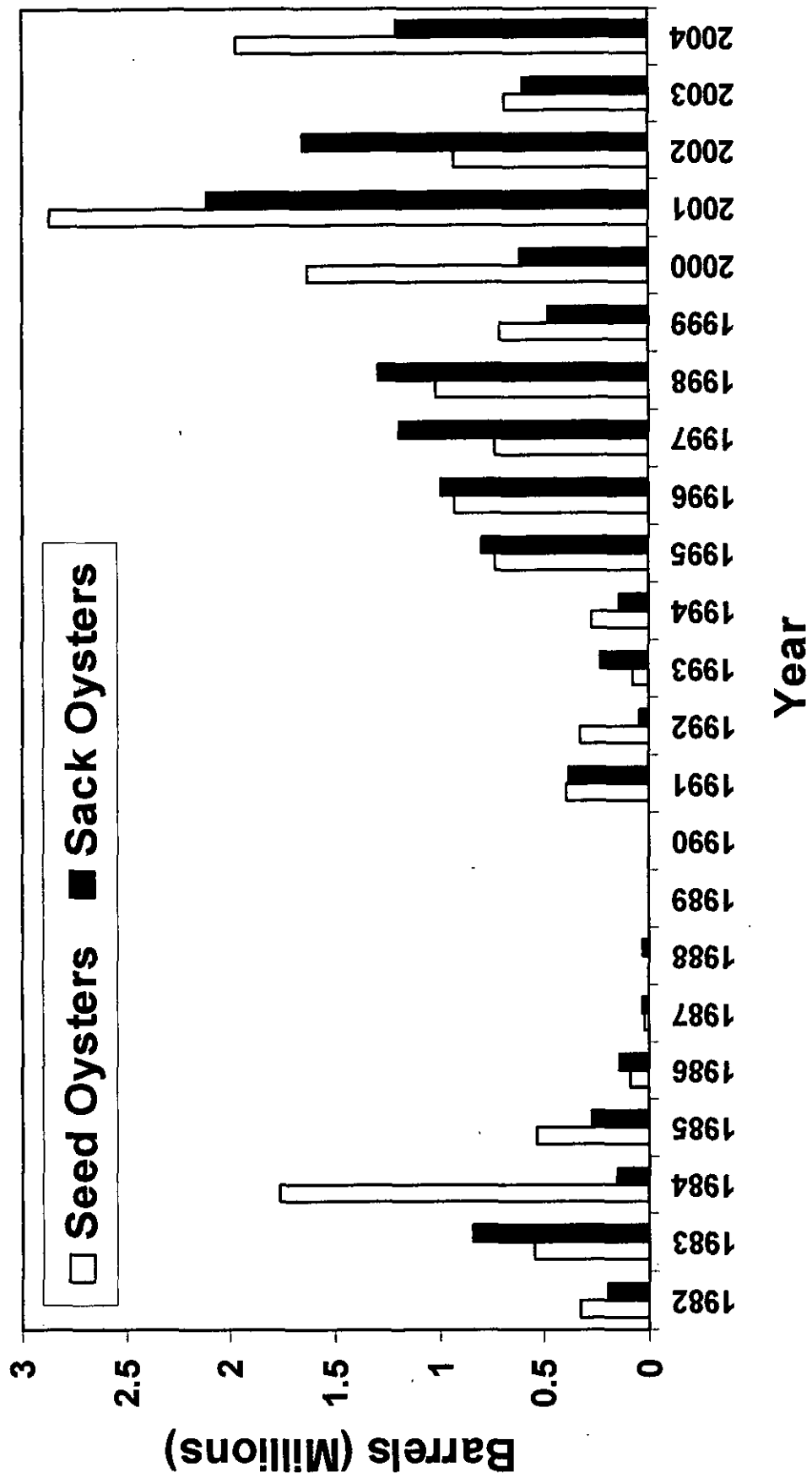


Figure 1.1. Historical Coastal Study Area I oyster stock size (estimated based on square meter sample analysis).

CSA II



State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

1600 CANAL STREET
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 568-5685

Kathleen Blanco
Governor

Dwight Landreaneau
Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patrick Banks, Biologist Supervisor, Oyster Program

FROM: Clarence Luquet, Biologist Supervisor, Coastal Study Area II

DATE: July 19, 2004

SUBJECT: CSA II Meter Square Samples 2004

Personnel from Coastal Study Area II completed the 2004 meter square sampling project on July 8, 2004. A total of 29 stations were sampled from Bay Gardene and Northern Black Bay to Breton Sound. We found 748,556 barrels of seed oysters and 370,394 barrels of sack oysters for a total of 1,119,151 barrels overall.

The overall availability is down 18 percent from last year and down 67% of last 10 years' average. Relative to last year, the stock of seed oysters is down by 50,898 barrels (6 %), while sack oyster availability is down by 196,424 barrels (35 %). Seed oyster availability is still well below the average for the 1990's: down 64 % of the 10 year average. Sack oysters are also below the average of the last ten years (down 74 %). Unfortunately for those bedding, the majority of the remaining seed oysters are located in the sacking only area. On the other hand those oysters should be available for sacking next year.

Seed oysters may be found on Bay Crabe and Bay Gardene reefs. In addition, there were an adequate number in Black Bay and on the reefs in the vicinity of Iron Banks. Sack oyster numbers are down again but they are available on the same reefs as the majority of seed and south of Stone Island and into California Bay, in pockets.

The results of this year's Dermo (*Perkinsus marinus*) sampling are included in a separate section of the 2004 Stock Assessment Report.

Mussel numbers were significantly lower on most reefs though still dense enough to be a problem on the California Bay area reefs. These were unfortunately most common on the same California Bay area reefs, and southern Black Bay areas, where the majority of our sack oyster resource remains.

Mortalities (recent) in SEED and SACK oysters averaged less than 5 percent across the area. We recently confirmed reports that there were on-going mortalities in Quarantine Bay and will be

rechecking these reefs and those in the area of California Point. Drills (*Stramonita* adults and *Neverita* juveniles) were found on reefs in the vicinity of Stone Island and Iron Banks

Young spat (less than one month old) were present at 18 of our 29 stations. The highest occurrences were in Bay Gardene.

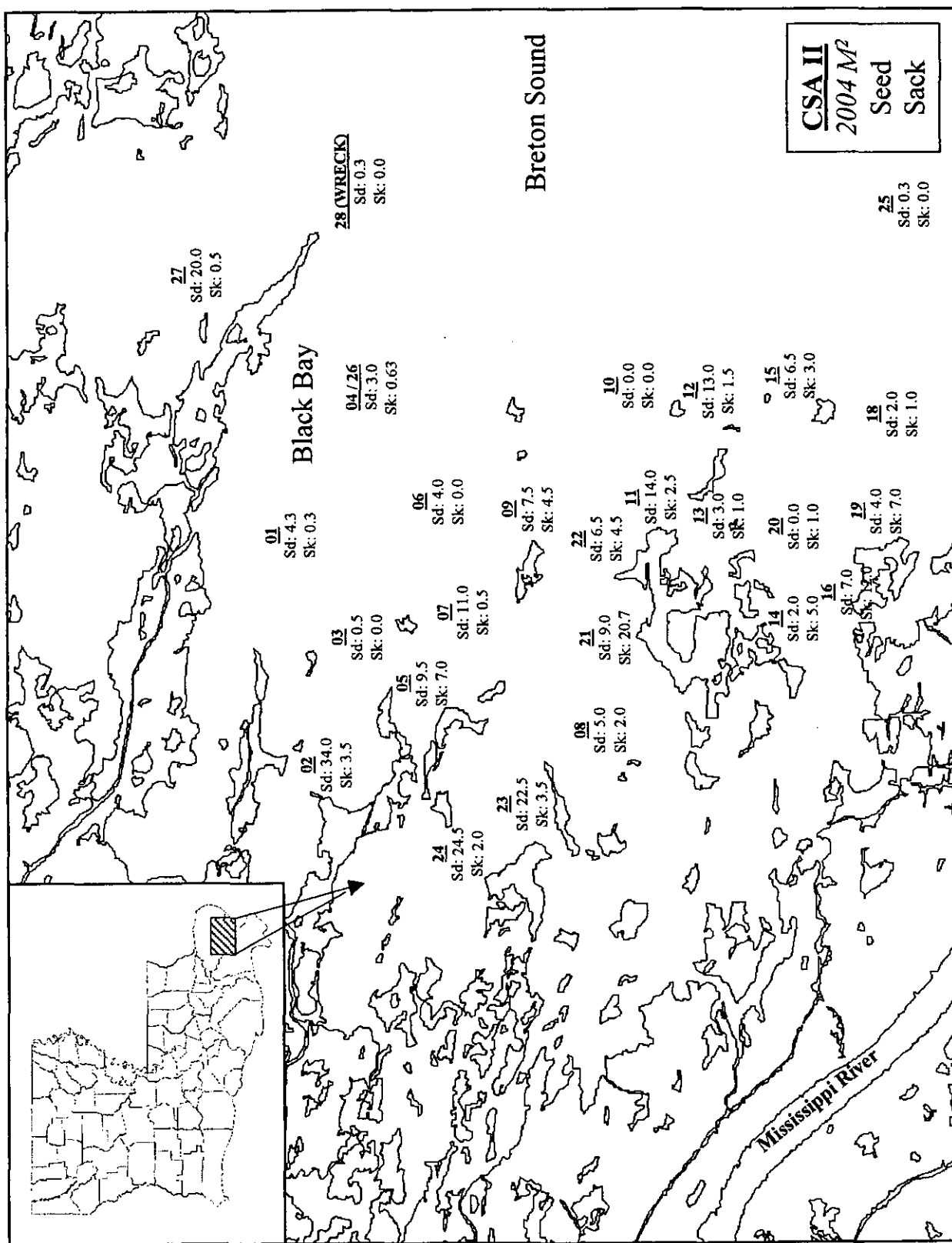


Table 2.1. 2004 square meter sample results for Coastal Study Area II.

Stations	Grids	Approx. Reef Acres	Square Meters	Average # of Seed Oysters/m ²	Average # of Sack Oysters/m ²	Barrels of Seed Oysters Available	Barrels of Sack Oysters Available	Hooked Mussels	Oyster Spat/m ²	Oyster Drill Presence	Seed Oyster Percent Mortality	Sack Oyster Percent Mortality
1	Snake	506	2,047,782	4.3	0.33	12,315	1,877	665	0.3		7.1	0
2	Jessie	59	283,773	34	3.5	13,400	2,759	170.5A	17		4.2	0
3	N. Lonesome	896	3,626,112	0.5	0	2,518	0	467.5	0		0	NA
5	Bayou Lost	118	477,546	9.5	7	6,301	9,286	9.5	0.5		5	0
6	Lonesome	716	2,897,652	4	0	16,098	0	438J 49A	0		0	NA
7	Black Bay	301	1,218,147	11	0.5	18,611	1,692	46.5A	1.5		4.3	0
8	W. Bay Crabe	501	2,027,547	5	2	14,080	11,264	23.0A	1.3		11.8	0
9	Stone	461	1,865,667	7.5	4.5	19,434	23,321	4,444J	6.5	yes*	0	0
10	S. Black Bay	145	586,815	0	0	0	0	15	0.5		NA	NA
11	Elephant	339	1,371,933	14	2.5	26,676	9,527	15.0J	0.5		0	0
12	Curfew	425	1,719,975	13	1.5	31,055	7,167	1,623J	0.5	yes*	0	0
13	N. California	109	441,123	3	1	1,838	1,225	20.0A	0.5		0	0
14	California	7	28,329	2	5	79	393	75.0A	0.5		20	0
16	Sunrise	174	704,178	7	12	6,846	23,473	331.0A	0		0	5.3
17 SKIP						private leases discontinued						
19	Mangrove	937	2,666,973	4	7	21,067	73,734	1227.5	0		0	0
20	W. Pelican	293	3,792,039	0	1	0	3,294	5,158.5J	0		NA	0
21	Bay Crabe	659	2,666,973	9	20.7	33,337	153,351	1.0A	0.7		10	0
22	E. Bay Crabe	122	493,734	6.5	4.5	4,457	6,172	12.0A	1		0	10
23	E. Gardene	28	113,316	22.5	3.5	3,541	1,102	43.5J 86.5A	2		0	0
24	Bay Gardene	69	279,243	24.5	2	9,502	1,551	347.5J	67.5		0	0
4,26,29	N. Black Bay	315	1,274,805	3	0.63	5,312	2,231	38.9	0.6		0	0
15	Telegraph	127	513,969	6.5	3	4,640	4,283	4,300A	1		0	0
18	E. Pelican	1,528	3,164,754	2	1	8,791	8,791	210.0J	0		0	0
26 SKIP	see 4,26					combined data						
25	Battledore	1419	5,742,693	0.3	0	2,393	0	0	0		0	NA
27	L Fortuna	4288	17,353,536	20	0.5	482,043	24,102	9	1	**	2.4	0
28	Wreck	2276	9,210,972	0.3	0	4,222	0	47.7A	0		50	NA
Sub Total						748,566	370,594					
ALL TOTAL						1,119,151						

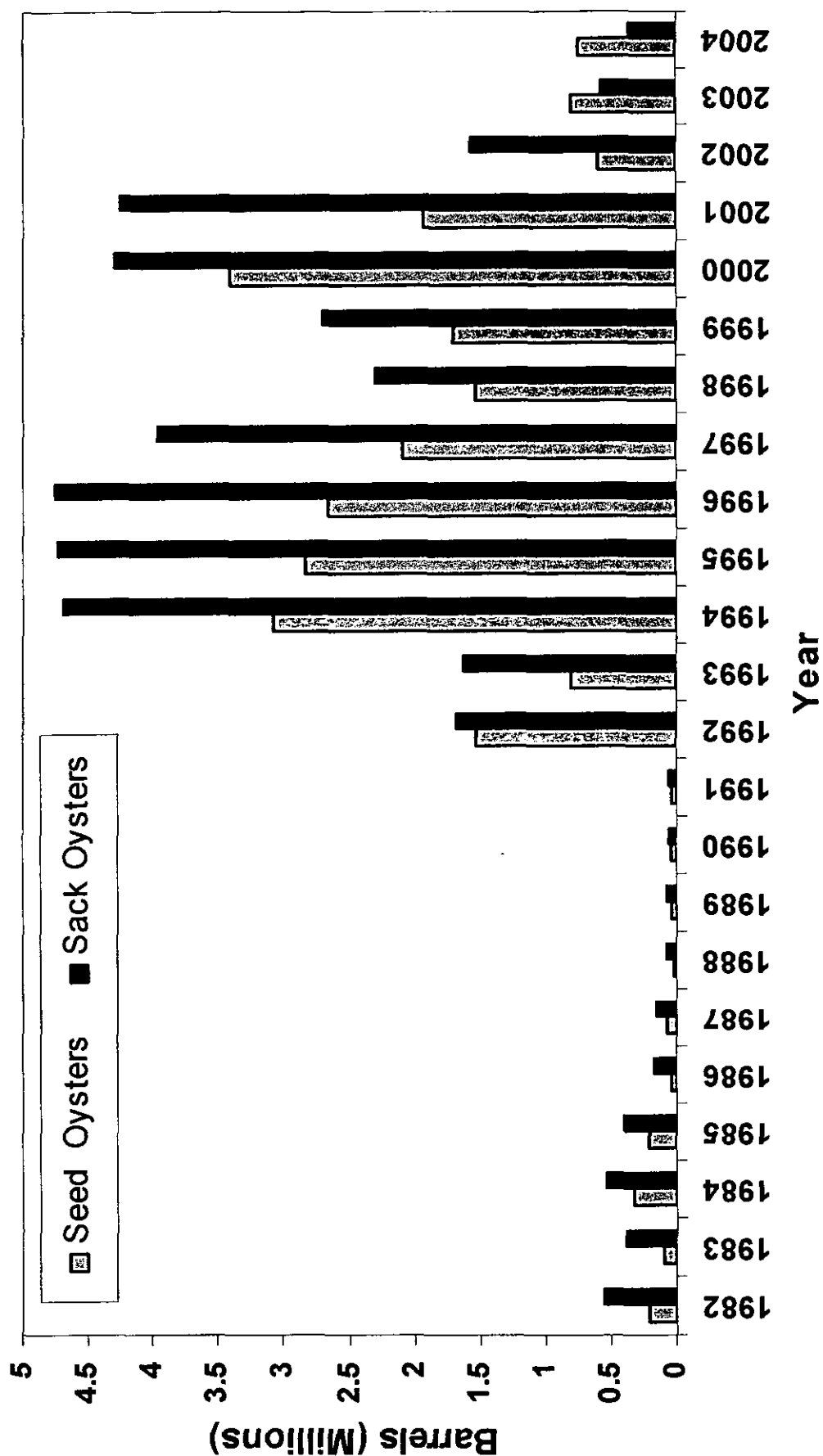


Figure 2.1. Historical Coastal Study Area II oyster stock size (estimated based on square meter sample analysis).

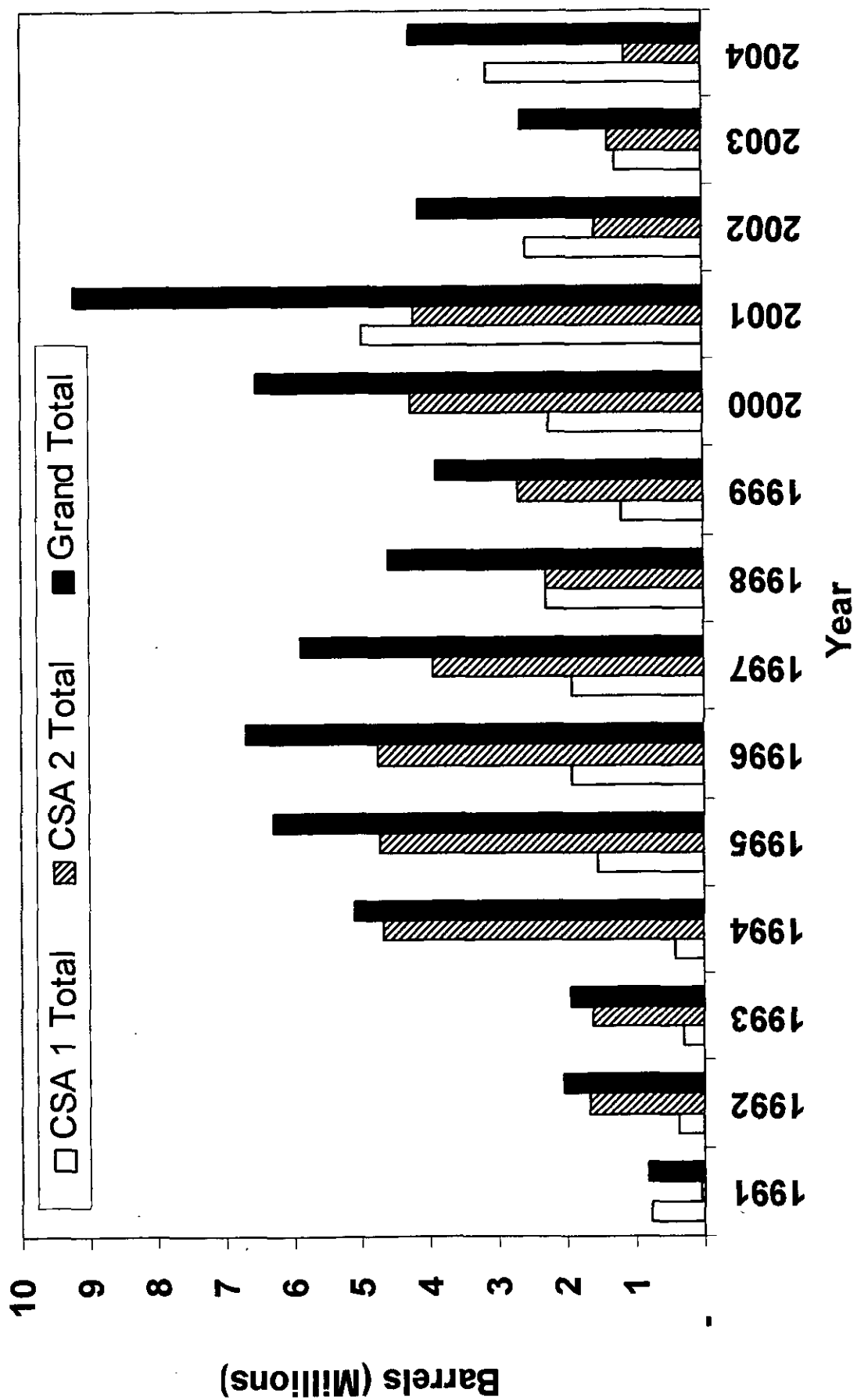


Figure 2.2. Oyster availability on public grounds east of the Mississippi River (seed and sack combined, estimated based on square meter sample analysis).

CSA III

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

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(985) 787-2163

To: Patrick Banks, Biologist Supervisor, Mollusc Program
From: John Dameier, Biologist Manager
Date: July 19, 2004
Re: Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation Meter Square Samples

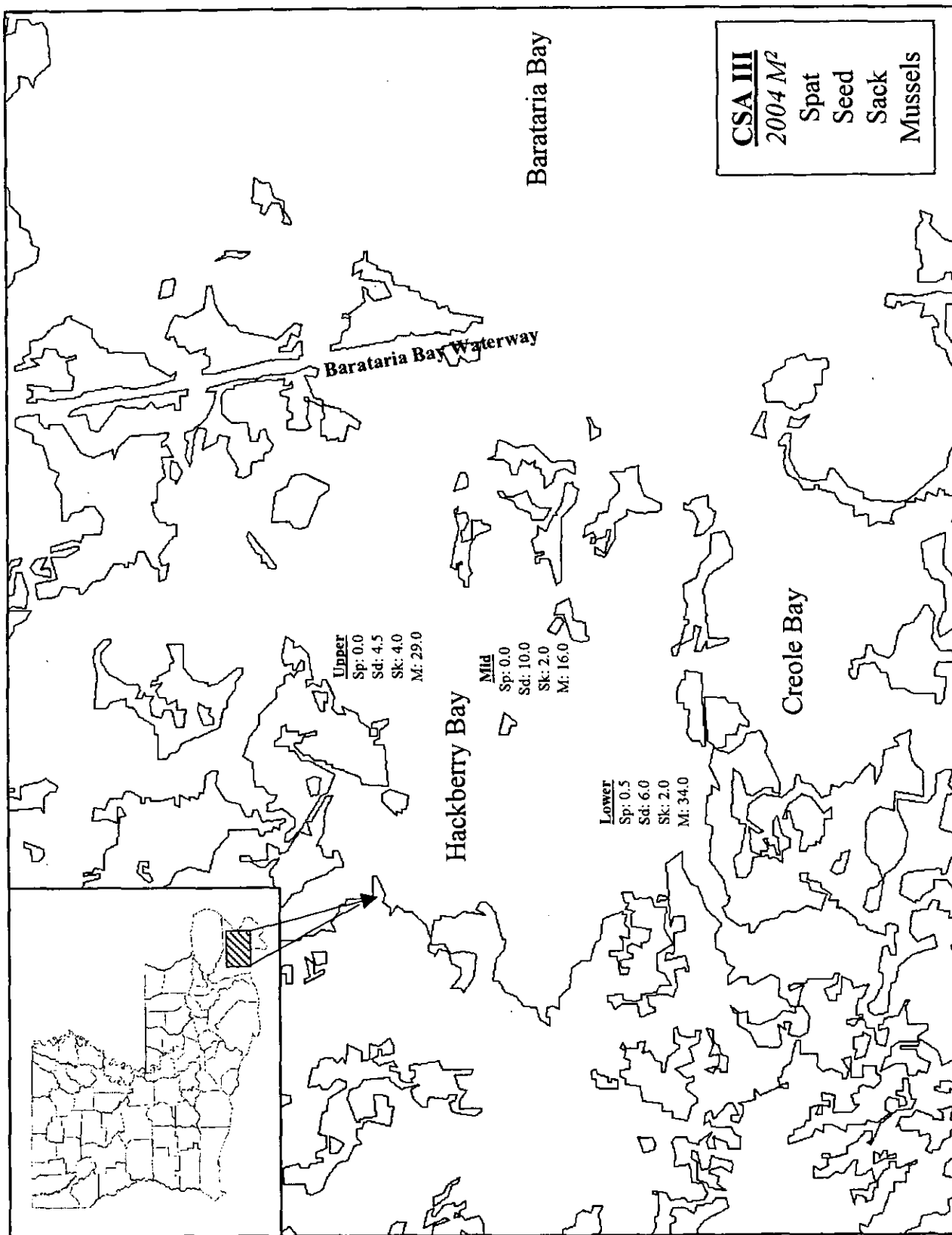
Meter square oyster samples were collected July 07, 2004. Samples were taken at three stations (upper, middle, and lower) with two replicates at each site. Oysters were measured in 5-mm size classes; averaged for each class; and divided into groups of spat, seed, and sack oysters. Numbers of oysters in each size class for all samples are presented in Figure 3.1. Spat oysters, which measured less than 25 mm, averaged 0.2 per m². This number was the lowest of the previous eight years (Figure 3.2). Seed oysters, which measured 25 mm to less than 75 mm, averaged 6.8 per m². This number was lower than seven of the previous eight years. Last year, 2003, was the lowest. Sack oysters, which measured 75 mm and greater, averaged 2.7 per m². This number was lower than five of the past eight years. Oysters per m² were extrapolated for 5.938 hectares (14.7 acres) of reef. The results were 563.6 barrels of seed oysters and 879.7 sacks or 439.9 barrels of marketable oysters (Table 3.1).

During September 2003 to April 2004 from Hackberry Bay Oyster Seed Reservation, 14,780 sacks of marketable oysters and 3,136 barrels of seed oysters were harvested. A temporary Public Oyster Seed Ground was opened in Little Lake and 14,507 sacks of marketable oysters and 4,118 barrels of seed oysters were harvested.

On July 1st, 2004, oysters were collected for Dr. John Supan (LSU Cooperative Extension Service) from the mid Hackberry station with a dredge. Sack and seed oysters were separated for "Dermo" analysis. The results are presented later in the report.

Salinities have been below average due to above average rainfall for southeast Louisiana. These conditions are not conducive to oyster reproduction and survival. Salinities in Hackberry Bay dropped below 3.0 ppt on June 18th and have only been above 3.0 ppt for 32 hours in the past 30 days. During the past 24 days, the salinities in Hackberry Bay have ranged from 0.2 to 2.5 ppt. Salinities in Little Lake ranged from 0.1 to 0.5 ppt during the past 30 days. Temperatures ranged from 27.4 to 32.0 degrees Celsius. Mortalities observed during this sampling totaled 27.0 % in Hackberry Bay and 100 % in Little Lake. Hooked mussels per square meter averaged 26.3, which was below average but higher than the previous four years.

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Meter Square Samples, July 07, 2004 Hackberry Bay, LA

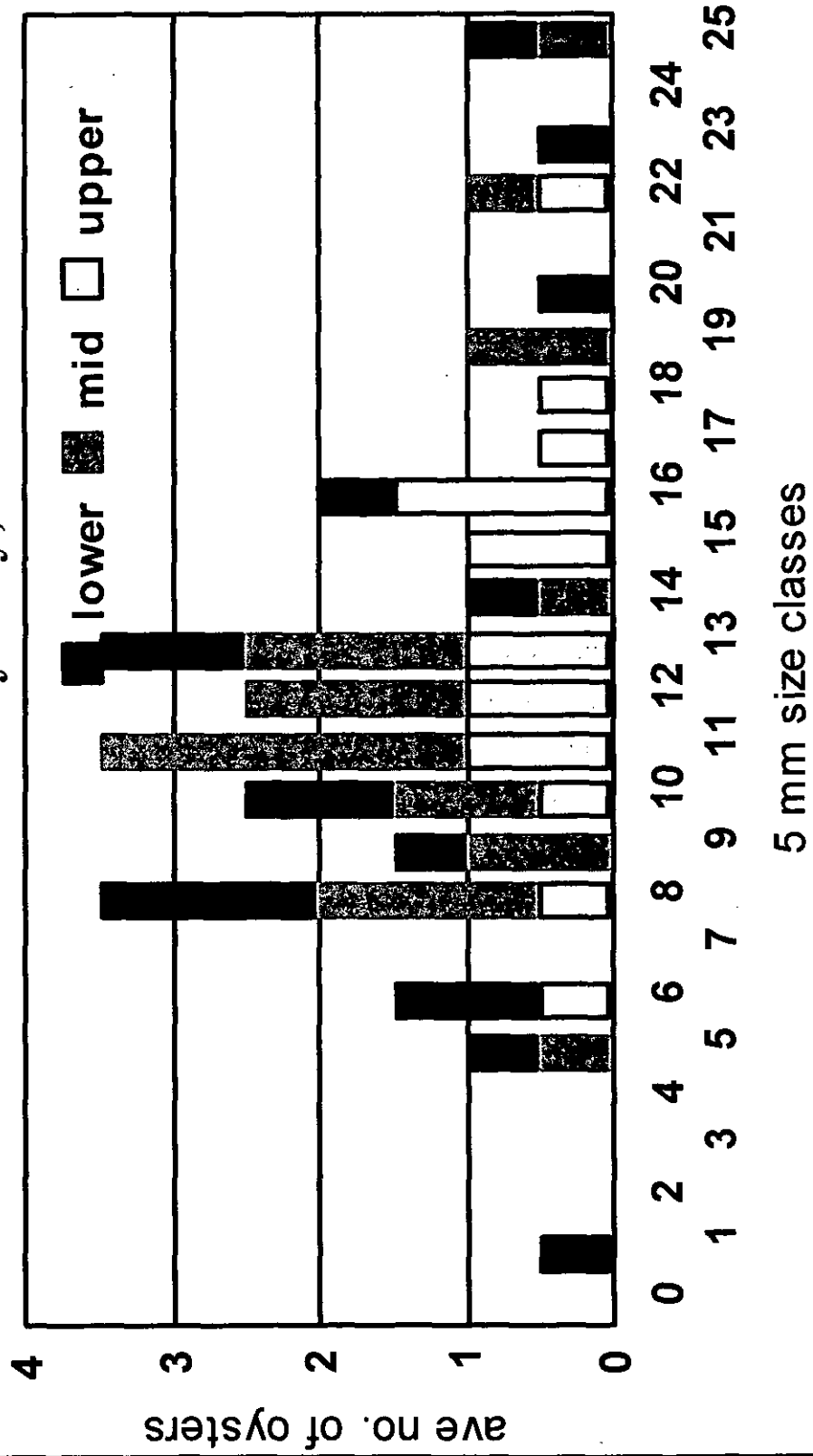


Figure 3.1. 2004 oyster size-frequency for Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation (Coastal Study Area III).

Meter Square Samples by Year **Hackberry Bay, LA (lower & mid)**

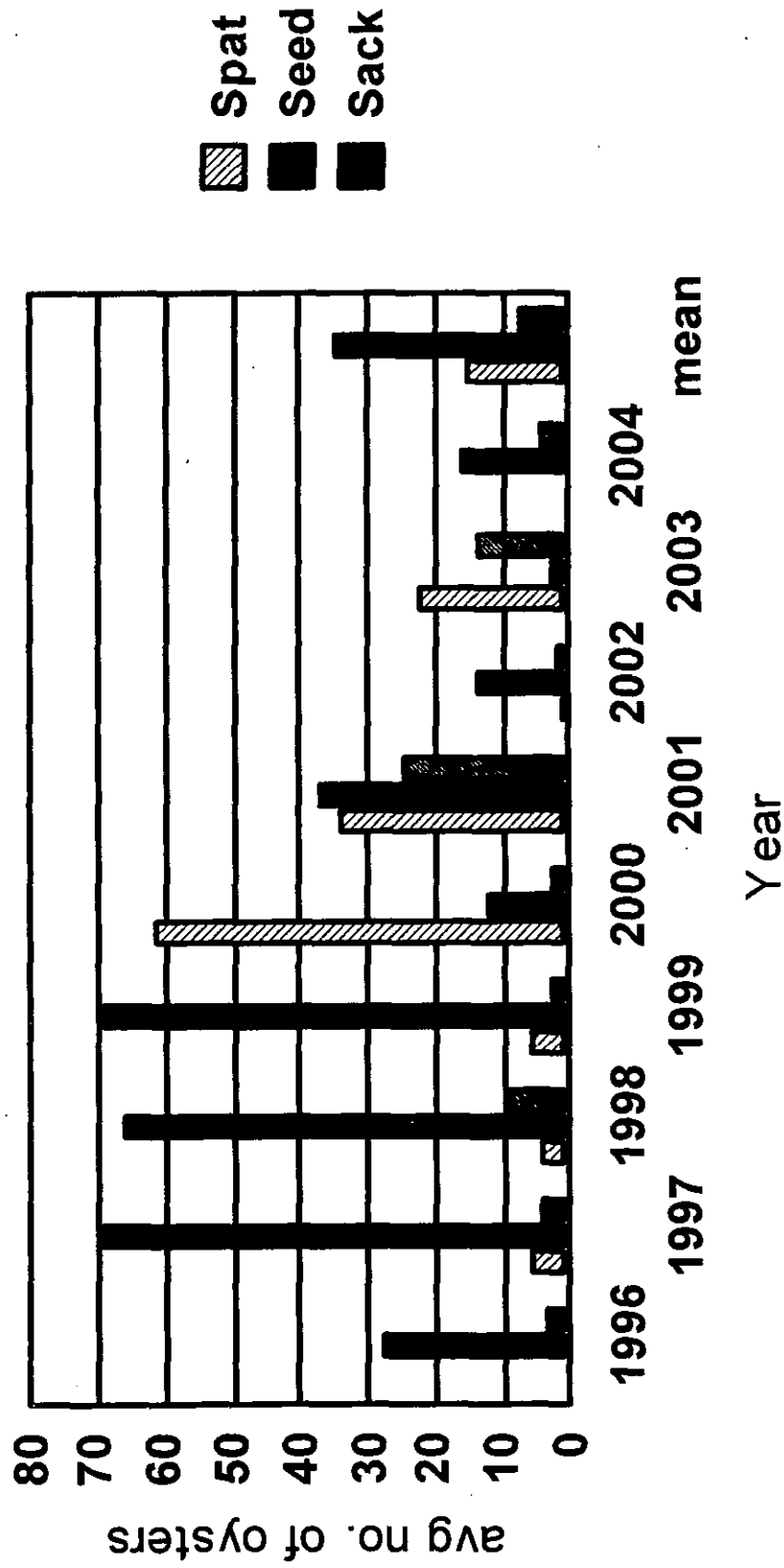


Figure 3.2. Historical square meter results for oyster resource on the Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation (Coastal Study Area III).

Table 3.1. 2004 Hackberry Bay Public Oyster Seed Reservation oyster availability (reefs only).

METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	# METER ²	AVG. # SEED OYSTERS PER M ²	AVG. # SACK OYSTERS PER M ²	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
1, 2, 3	14.7	59,380.0	6.83	2.67	563.6	439.9

Table 3.2 Monthly and 2003-2004 season production for Hackberry Bay and Little Lake.

Hackberry Bay						
Month	Sacks	Barrels Seed	Days Boarded	Fishable Days	Estimate of Sacks	Estimate of Seed, bbl
September	205	207.5	5	20	820	830
October	495	15	5	31	3069	93
November	360	50	2	29	5220	725
December	320	110	3	30	3200	1100
January	180	62.5	5	31	1116	388
February	50	0	4	29	363	0
March	160	0	5	31	992	0
Total					14780	3136

Little Lake						
Month	Sacks	Barrels Seed	Days Boarded	Fishable Days	Estimate of Sacks	Estimate of Seed, bbl
September	1880	650	5	28	10528	3640
October	115	0	3	31	1188	0
November	0	0	3	29	0	0
December	0	0	3	30	0	0
January	70	45	5	31	434	279
February	325	27.5	4	29	2356	199
March	0	0	5	31	0	0
Total					14507	4118

CSA V

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
Post Office Box 189
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(985) 594-4139

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

July 7, 2004

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Patrick Banks

FROM: *SHH 14266*
Steve Hein and Kenny King *KJK 11332*

SUBJECT: Oyster Seed Reservation Stock Assessment

Meter square (m^2) field sampling was completed by Coastal Study Area V personnel on June 22, 2004. A total of 13 stations, nine in Sister Lake [including the 1994 and 1995 shell plants (Figure 1)] and four in Bay Junop (Figure 2) were sampled. Two replicate m^2 samples were taken at each station.

Preliminary m^2 site assessment was performed prior to sampling. GPS coordinates were used to place markers at all m^2 stations in Sister Lake and Bay Junop (Tables 1 & 2).

Sister Lake Seed Reservation was open to harvest for the 2003-2004 season. Harvest began on 9/10/03 and closed on 10/10/03 with 127 different vessels participating. The effort resulted in 1,453 boat-days and an estimated harvest of 92,580 sacks of market oysters and 11,840 barrels (BBLS) of seed oysters for total production of 58,130 BBLS. The general trend since the early 1970's indicates industry's increased emphasis on sack oyster production (Figure 5). More detailed information is available in the 2003 Oyster Seed Reservation Final Report on 3/10/04.

Overall, total BBLS available for harvest for the 2004-2005 assessment has decreased from last year by 48%. Oysters available for harvest this season in Sister Lake total 104,598 BBLS (Table 3) of seed oysters and 43,193 BBLS (Table 3) of sack oysters ranking them 14th and 17th, respectively, for the period since 1980 (Table 7). Barrels of sack oysters available for harvest represents a decline of 72% from last year's assessment, with barrels of seed oysters decreasing 20% from last year's assessment (Figure 3). The ratio of seed to sack availability has increased from last year's assessment of 0.9/1.0 to 2.4/1.0 for 2004 (Table 5). The majority of estimated sack and seed oysters available for harvest is located above the traditional Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) pollution line effective November 1. Sack oysters have declined at all stations since last year's assessment but is more pronounced above the DHH line where much of the 2003 effort was concentrated.

In an effort to remove silt overburden from Hurricane Lili and Tropical Storm Isidore, Bay Junop Seed Reservation was open to sack and seed harvest for a period of 12 days in 2003. Results of m² sampling estimate 4,142.2 BBLS of seed oysters and 7,547.3 BBLS of sack oysters available for harvest (Table 4). Seed oyster availability has decreased 60% from the 2003 assessment and represents one of the lowest seed estimates to date (Table 8). Sack oyster availability has decreased 78% from the 2003 assessment with production estimates ranking 19th out of 24 in historical production (Table 8). Overall, total BBLS available for harvest has decreased 73% from the 2003 assessment and represents the fourth lowest estimate on record (Table 6; Figure 4). Seed to sack ratio has increased from last year's assessment of 0.3/1.0 to 0.5/1.0 for 2004 (Table 6).

Average water temperatures in Sister Lake and Bay Junop were at or near the long term average (LTA) for the months of May and June (Tables 11 & 12) with the greatest deviance being 0.8°C. Salinities in Sister Lake were above the LTA (14.5 ppt) for May (17.2 ppt) and above the LTA (9.6 ppt) for June (12.2 ppt). Salinities in Bay Junop were near the LTA (19.0 ppt) for May (18.9 ppt) and above the LTA (13.8 ppt) for June (18.6 ppt) (Table 12). Square meter temperatures and salinities can be found in Tables 9 and 10.

No significant oyster mortality was observed in m² samples with 1.4% overall mortality in Sister Lake and Bay Junop. Average spat sets were noted, with Sister Lake averaging 48 spat per station and Bay Junop averaging 43 spat per station.

Replicate samples were combined for a total number of hooked mussels at each station (Tables 13 & 14). Biofouling rates of hooked mussels in Sister Lake has decreased 20% from last year's assessment with four stations (200, 207, 216, 217) accounting for 86% of the total hooked mussels. The remaining five stations ranged from 0-51 hooked mussels per station. Biofouling rates of hooked mussels in Bay Junop have decreased 54% from the 2003 assessment with one station (251) accounting for 76% of the total hooked mussels. The remaining three stations ranged from 0-47 hooked mussels per station.

Perkinsus marinus analysis is not available at this time as "Dermo" samples are scheduled to be collected during the first week of July. Results will be forwarded when data is available.

No evidence of oyster drills (*Stramonita haemastoma*) was present in m² samples, however some eggs were noted in May and June dredge samples in Sister Lake. A total of 31 unidentified mud crabs were recorded from the 13 stations. No blue crabs (*Callinectes sapidus*), stone crabs (*Menippe adina*), or toadfish (*Opsanus beta*) were collected.

Through a Federal Grant, Coastal Impact Assessment Program (CIAP), monies were available to establish a first ever cultch plant on the Lake Mechant Seed Ground. Marine Fisheries personnel identified an approximate 40-acre site of suitable substrate and water depth on the Lake Mechant Seed Ground. Along with Department surveyors the perimeter was established. On May 8-21, 2004 cultch planting by bucket dredge was completed. Materials consisted of 9,460 yd³ of #57 limestone.

Through a Federal Grant Program, the Louisiana Oyster Rehabilitation and Promotion Project, a new cultch plant was established in Sister Lake. Marine Fisheries personnel located an area of firm substrate in the southern portion of Sister Lake with good water depth and nearby access to the deep water of Grand Caillou Bayou. From 5/23/04 to 5/29/04 approximately 10,300 cubic yards

July 7, 2004

(yd³) of material was deposited by bucket dredge in combination with high pressure water hose spray over the approximate 50-acre site. Materials consisted of: 6,707 yd³ of #57 limestone, 3,003 yd³ of crushed concrete and 591 yd³ of whole oyster shell.

SH:KK/jbv

cc: Jim Hanifen
Martin Bourgeois

Figure 1 Sister Lake Meter Square Samples (average # of seed and sack oysters at each station)

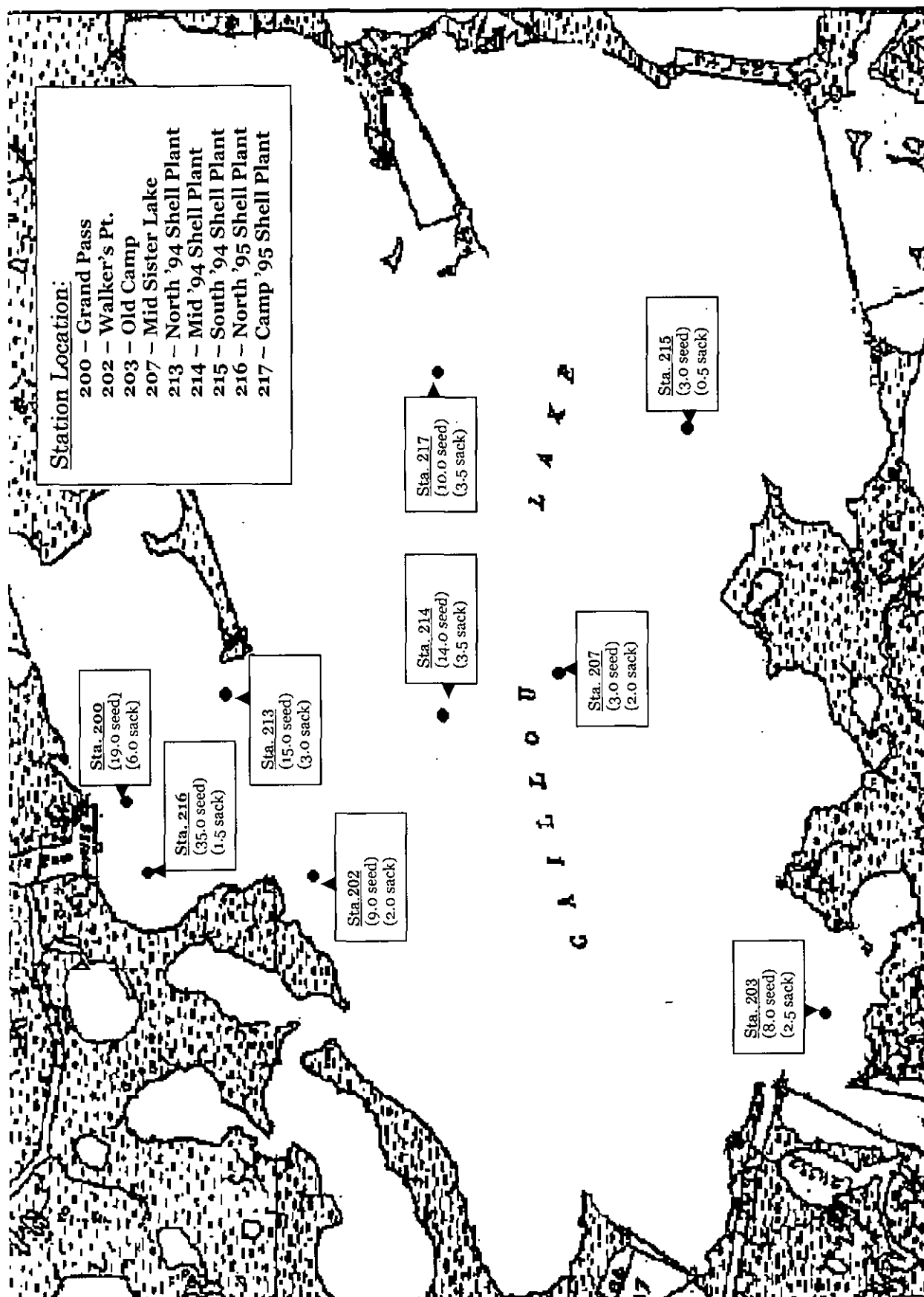


Figure 2 Bay Junop Meter Square Samples

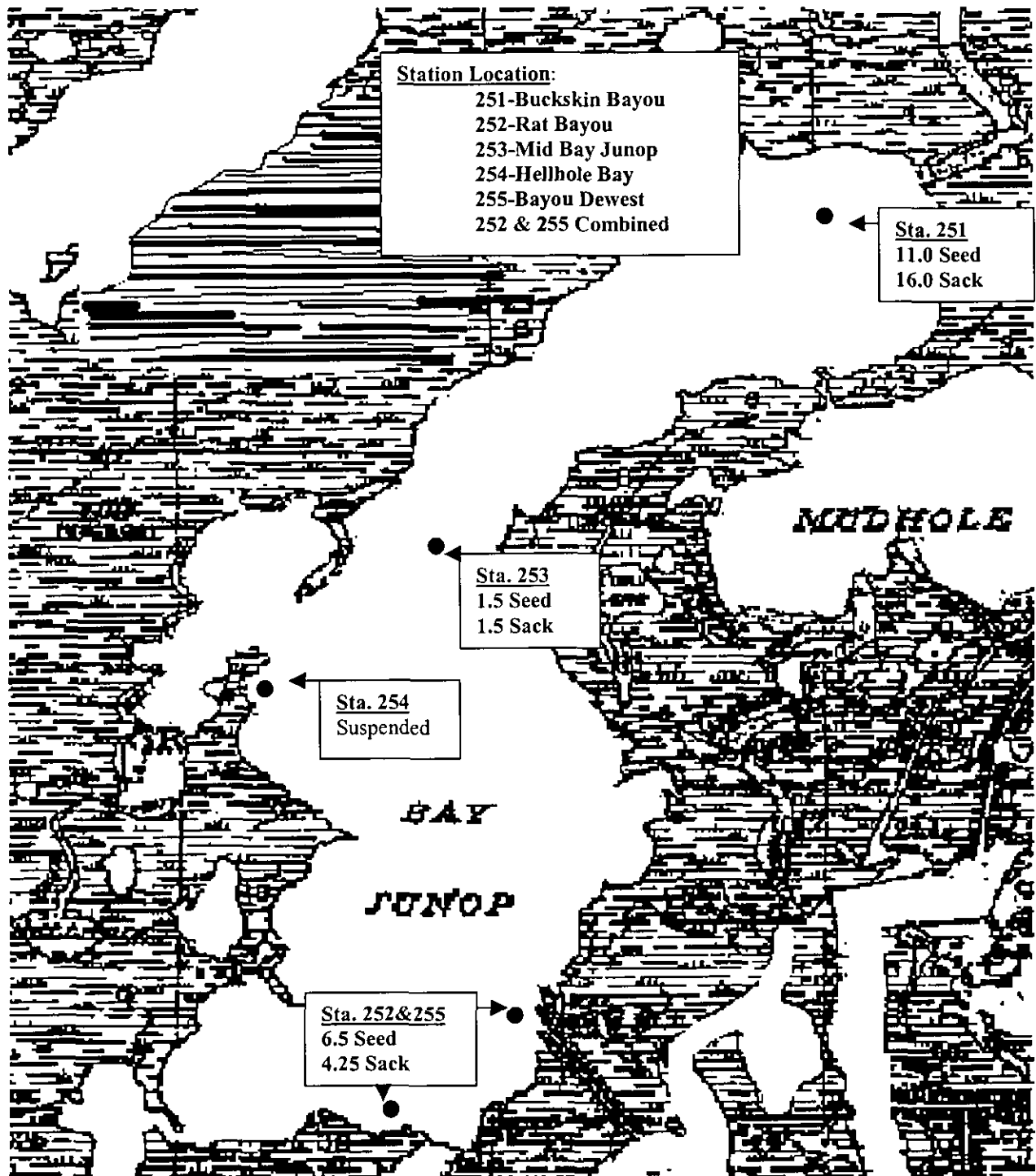


Table 1 Sister Lake M² Sample Coordinates

Stn. #	Stn. Name	North Lat.	West Long.	Depth
200	Grand Pass	29°15'28.5"	90°55'45.5"	10'
202	Walkers Pt.	29°14'50.9"	90°56'16.9"	6'
203	Old Camp	29°12'58.2"	90°56'40.2"	4'
207	Mid Sister Lake	29°14'00.1"	90°55'14.7"	6'
213**	N '94 Shell Plant	29°15'02.9"	90°55'30.9"	6'
214**	Mid '94 Shell Plant	29°14'16.5"	90°55'33.8"	6'
215**	S '94 Shell Plant	29°13'14.1"	90°53'53.6"	5'
216***	N '95 Shell Plant	29°15'25.1"	90°56'10.1"	5'
217***	Camp '95 Shell Plant	29°14'21.8"	90°54'18.3"	5'

* Revised July 2001

** Not permanent stations; will sample 5 years then stop; 1995-1999. Continued samples '00-'04.

***Not permanent stations; will sample 5 years then stop; 1996-2000. Continued samples '01-'04.

Table 2 Bay Junop M² Sample Coordinates

Stn. #	Stn. Name	North Lat.	West Long.	Depth
251	@ Buckskin Bayou	29°15'56.1"	91°01'45.1"	6'
252	@Rat Bayou	29°13'06.6"	91°02'52.6"	3'
253	Mid Bay Junop	29°14'43.7"	91°03'08.6"	5'
254	Mid @ Hellhole Bay**	29°14'09.6"	91°03'47.6"	4'
255	@ Bayou deWest	29°12'38.4"	91°03'18.2"	4'

* Revised July 2001

** Suspended due to conflict with private lease

Table 3 2004 Sister Lake Oyster Availability

METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	#METER ²	#SEED OYSTERS	#SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
200	221.58	896,734.26	19	6	23,663.8	4,981.8
202	81.93	331,570.71	9	2	4,144.6	1,842.1
203	151.31	612,352.00	8	2.5	6,803.9	4,252.4
207	185.72	751,608.84	3	2	3,131.7	4,175.6
213*	96	388,512	15	3	8,094.0	3,237.6
214*	129	522,063	14	3.5	10,151.2	5,075.6
215*	81	327,807	3	0.5	1,365.9	455.3
216**	115	465,405	35	1.5	22,623.8	1,939.2
217**	438	1,772,586	10	3.5	24,619.2	17,233.5
TOTAL	1,499.54	6,068,639	116	24.5	104,598.1	43,193.1

* 1994 Shell Plants

** 1995 Shell Plants

Table 4 2004 Bay Junop Oyster Availability

METER ² STATION	REEF ACREAGE	#METER ²	#SEED OYSTERS	#SACK OYSTERS	BARRELS SEED OYSTERS	BARRELS SACK OYSTERS
251	17.2	69,608.40	11	16	1,063.5	3,093.7
252*	67.36	272,605.92	6.5	4.25	2,461.0	3,218.3
253	73.26	296,483.22	1.5	1.5	617.7	1,235.3
254**	94.20	381,227.40	-	-	-	-
255*						
TOTAL	252.02	1,019,924.9	19.0	21.75	4,142.2	7,547.3

* Stations 252 and 255 are combined.

** Suspended due to conflict with private lease

Table 5 Sister Lake Historical Meter² Available Oyster Production Estimates

YEAR	BARRELS SEED	BARRELS SACK	TOTAL BBLs AVAILABLE PRODUCTION	RATIO SEED TO SACK AVAILABILITY
1980*	142,620.1	35,170.3	177,790.4	4.1-1.0
1981	111,146.1	110,990.2	222,136.3	1.0-1.0
1982	76,950.0	94,050.0	171,000.0	0.8-1.0
1983	8,768.5	27,654.5	36,423.0	0.3-1.0
1984	69,136.0	50,587.0	119,723.0	1.4-1.0
1985	13,775.0	16,206.0	29,981.0	0.8-1.0
1986	32,633.0	21,516.0	54,150.0	1.5-1.0
1987	18,522.0	2,008.0	20,530.0	9.2-1.0
1988	47,695.0	69,570.0	117,265.0	0.7-1.0
1989	26,179.0	64,549.5	90,728.5	0.4-1.0
1990	72,862.9	24,282.0	97,144.9	3.0-1.0
1991	87,044.2	28,733.7	115,777.9	3.0-1.0
1992	172,132.0	209,854.0	381,986.0	0.8-1.0
1993	77,190.0	35,824.0	113,014.0	2.2-1.0
1994	358,455.0	50,429.0	408,884.0	7.1-1.0
1995	236,687.0	397,777.0	634,464.0	0.6-1.0
1996	384,500.0	256,164.0	640,664.0	1.5-1.0
1997	540,270.2	557,072.2	1,097,342.4	1.0-1.0
1998	298,975.0	327,125.0	626,100.0	0.9-1.0
1999	452,991.0	301,321.0	452,991.0	1.5-1.0
2000	243,589.9	76,515.5	320,105.4	3.2-1.0
2001	304,763.0	343,655.5	648,418.5	0.9-1.0
2002	115,034.0	186,233.4	301,257.4	0.6-1.0
2003	131,038.3	151,844.5	282,882.8	0.9-1.0
2004	104,598.1	43,193.1	147,791.2	2.4-1.0

* BASED ON 1999 ACREAGE

Figure 3 Sister Lake Historical Stock Size

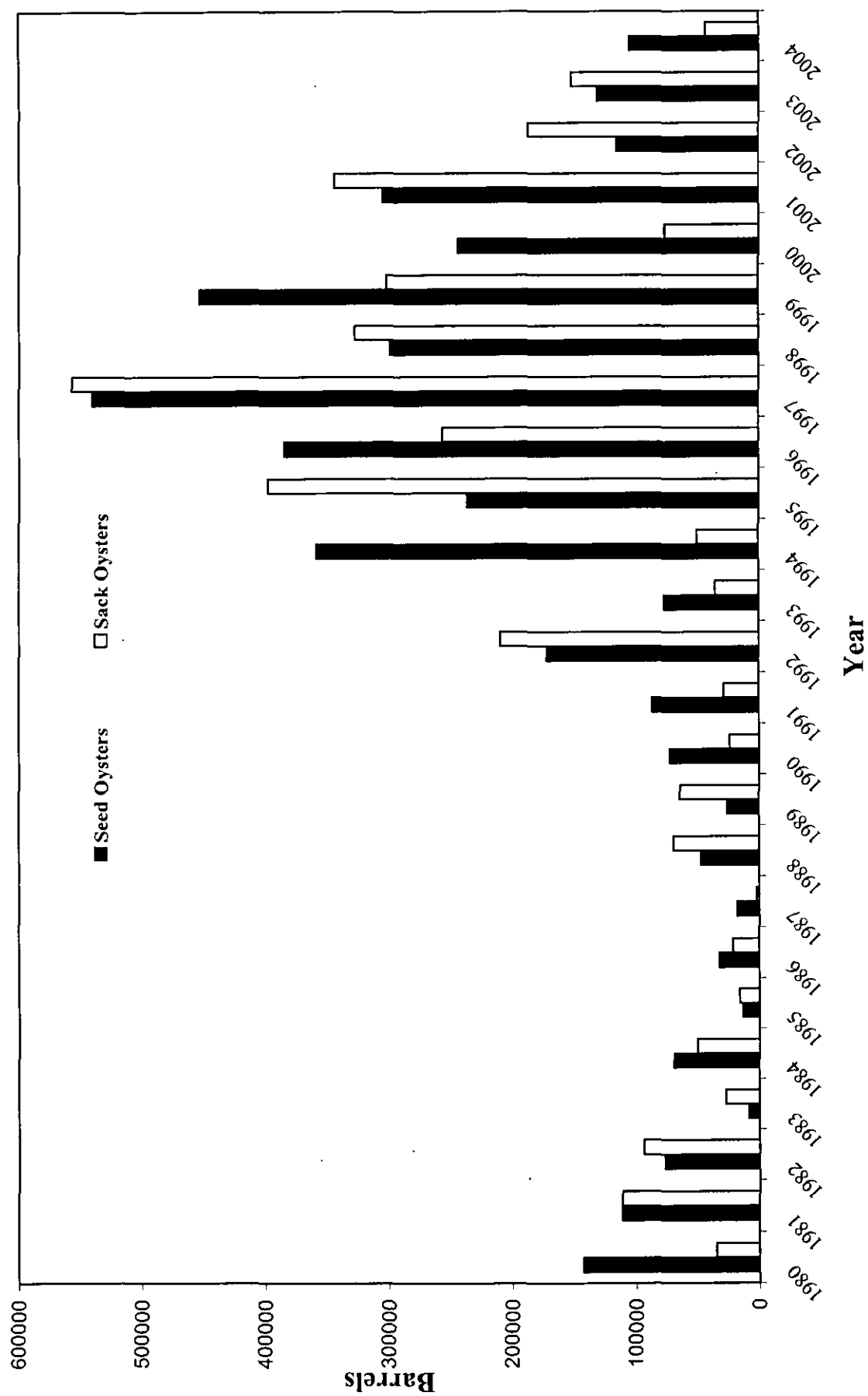


Table 6 Bay Junop Historical Meter² Available Oyster Production Estimates

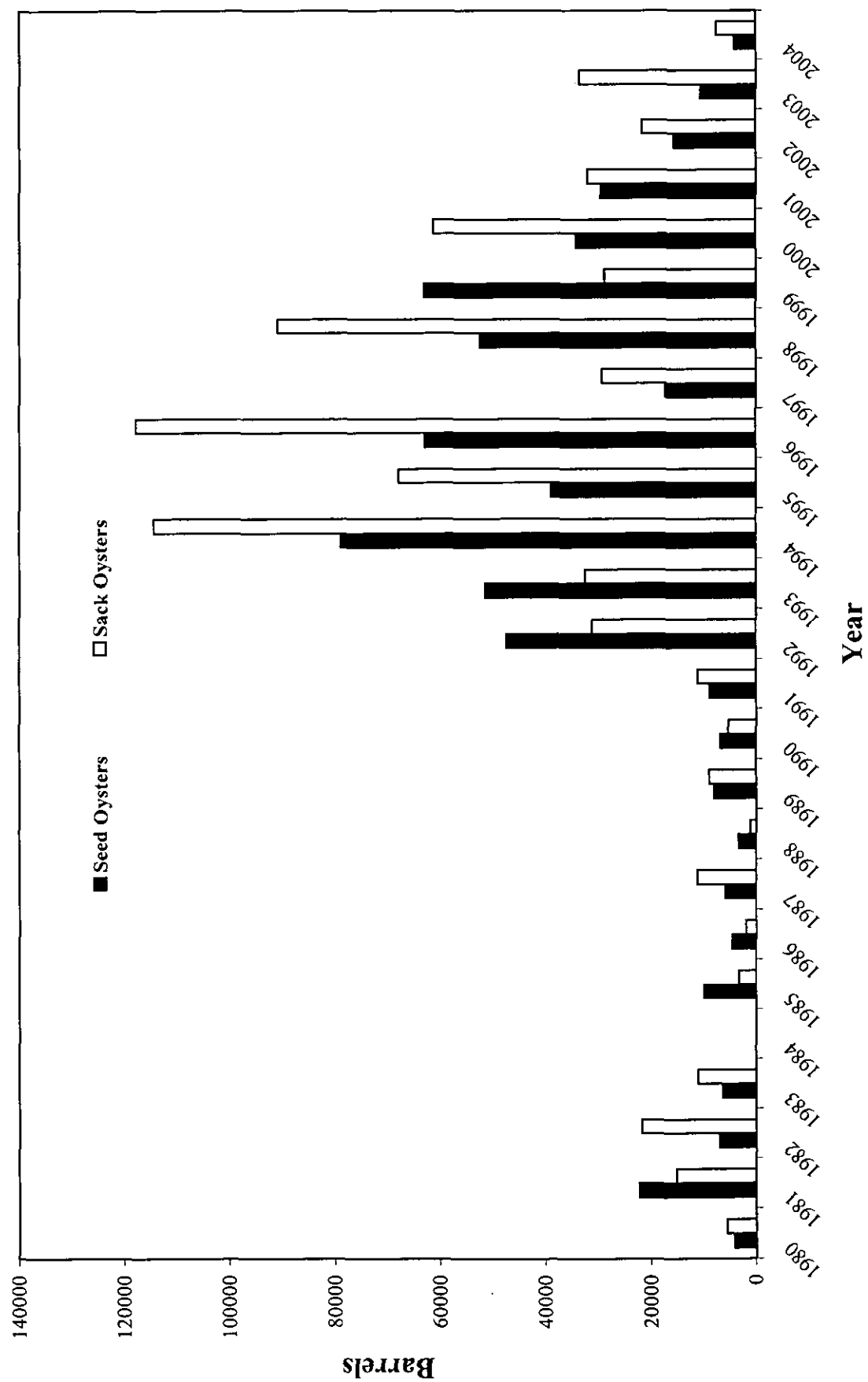
YEAR	BARRELS SEED	BARRELS SACK	TOTAL BBLs AVAILABLE PRODUCTION	RATIO SEED TO SACK AVAILABILITY
1980*	4,297.4	5,632.3	9,929.7	0.8-1.0
1981	22,329.0	15,213.0	37,542.0	1.5-1.0
1982	7,082.2	21,809.0	28,891.2	0.3-1.0
1983	6,464.0	11,129.0	17,593.0	0.6-1.0
1984**	----	----	----	----
1985	10,004.0	3,344.5	13,348.5	3.0-1.0
1986	4,632.0	4,317.0	8,949.0	1.1-1.0
1987	5,878.0	11,188.0	17,066.0	0.5-1.0
1988	3,282.0	1,169.0	4,451.0	2.8-1.0
1989	8,073.7	8,935.0	17,009.0	0.9-1.0
1990	6,787.0	5,249.5	12,036.5	1.3-1.0
1991	8,843.0	11,166.0	20,009.0	0.8-1.0
1992	47,448.0	31,128.0	78,572.0	1.5-1.0
1993	51,492.0	32,466.0	83,958.0	1.6-1.0
1994	78,896.0	114,303.0	193,199.0	0.7-1.0
1995	38,950.0	67,837.0	106,787.0	0.6-1.0
1996	62,841.0	117,669.0	180,510.0	0.5-1.0
1997	17,262.0	29,243.0	46,505.0	0.6-1.0
1998	52,340.1	90,786.6	143,126.7	0.6-1.0
1999	63,010.4	28,763.5	91,773.5	2.2-1.0
2000	34,107.1	61,193.8	95,300.9	0.6-1.0
2001	29,453.4	32,004.9	61,458.3	0.9-1.0
2002	15,524.4	21,583.3	37,107.7	0.7-1.0
2003***	10,455.6	33,518.0	43,973.6	0.3-1.0
2004***	4,142.2	7,547.3	11,689.5	0.5-1.0

* BASED ON 1999 ACREAGE

** NO SAMPLES TAKEN

*** CALCULATED WITHOUT STATION 254

Figure 4 Bay Junop Historical Stock Size



**Table 7 Sister Lake Ranking of Seed and Sack Available
Oyster Production**

YEAR	BARRELS SEED*	YEAR	BARRELS SACK*
1997	540,270.2	1997	557,072.2
1999	452,991.0	1995	397,777.0
1996	384,500.0	2001	343,655.5
1994	358,455.0	1998	327,125.0
2001	304,763.0	1999	301,321.0
1998	298,975.0	1996	256,164.0
2000	243,589.9	1992	209,854.0
1995	236,687.0	2002	186,233.4
1992	172,132.0	2003	151,844.5
1980	142,620.1	1981	110,990.2
2003	131,038.3	1982	94,050.0
2002	115,034.0	2000	76,515.5
1981	111,146.1	1988	69,570.0
2004	104,598.1	1989	64,549.5
1991	87,044.2	1984	50,587.0
1993	77,190.0	1994	50,429.0
1982	76,950.0	2004	43,193.1
1990	72,862.9	1993	35,824.0
1984	69,136.0	1980	35,170.3
1988	47,695.0	1991	28,733.7
1986	32,633.0	1983	27,654.5
1989	26,179.0	1990	24,282.0
1987	18,522.0	1986	21,516.0
1985	13,775.0	1985	16,206.0
1983	8,768.5	1987	2,008.0

* BASED ON 1999 ACREAGE

Table 8 Bay Junop Ranking of Seed and Sack Available Oyster Production

YEAR	BARRELS SEED*	YEAR	BARRELS SACK*
1994	78,896.0	1996	117,669.0
1999	63,010.4	1994	114,303.0
1996	62,841.0	1998	90,786.6
1998	52,340.1	1995	67,837.0
1993	51,492.0	2000	61,193.8
1992	47,448.0	2003***	33,518.0
1995	38,950.0	1993	32,466.0
2000	34,107.1	2001	32,004.9
2001	29,453.4	1992	31,128.0
1981	22,329.0	1997	29,243.0
1997	17,262.0	1999	28,763.5
2002	15,524.4	1982	21,809.0
2003***	10,455.6	2002	21,583.3
1985	10,004.0	1981	15,213.0
1991	8,843.0	1987	11,188.0
1989	8,073.7	1991	11,166.0
1982	7,082.2	1983	11,129.0
1990	6,787.0	1989	8,935.0
1983	6,464.0	2004***	7,547.3
1987	5,878.0	1980	5,632.3
1986	4,632.0	1990	5,249.5
1980	4,297.4	1986	4,317.0
2004***	4,142.2	1985	3,344.5
1988	3,282.0	1988	1,169.0
1984**	----	1984**	----

* BASED ON 1999 ACREAGE

** NO SAMPLES TAKEN

*** CALCULATED WITHOUT STATION 254

Table 9 Sister Lake Meter² Temp and Salinity

STATION	STATION NAME	TEMP (°C)**	SAL (ppt)**
200	GRAND PASS	29.4	8.0
202	WALKER'S PT.	29.9	12.9
203	OLD CAMP	30.1	16.9
207	MID SISTER LAKE	30.3	11.2
213*	NORTH '94*	30.7	14.5
214*	MID '94*	30.7	16.2
215*	SOUTH '94*	30.3	16.9
216*	NORHT '95*	30.8	14.7
217*	CAMP '95*	30.4	12.8
Mean		30.3	13.8

*SHELL PLANTS

Table 10 Bay Junop Meter² Temp and Salinity

STATION	STATION NAME	TEMP (°C)**	SAL (ppt)**
251	@BUCKSKIN BAYOU	29.8	14.3
252	@RAT BAYOU	29.6	19.6
253	MID BAY JUNOP	29.7	18.5
254*	MID @ HELL HOLE	-	-
255	@ BAYOU deWEST	29.6	17.2
Mean		29.7	17.4

* Suspended due to conflict with private lease

Table 11 Mean Water Temp (°C) in Sister Lake and Bay Junop

YEAR	SISTER LAKE		BAY JUNOP	
	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE
1995	27.3	29	29.3	29.3
1996	27.2	29.5	28.4	30.3
1997	27.1	30	26.4	28.6
1998	27.8	30.1	28	28.9
1999	25	28.8	25	28.8
2000	27.3	28.8	28.3	29.7
*2001	24.9	29.3	26.0	30.1
*2002	28.4	28.7	28.4	28.5
*2003	27.8	30.0	27.6	30.2
*2004	27.8	29.5	27.5	29.2
mean	27.0	29.4	27.5	29.4

*OYSTER DREDGE SAMPLES

Table 12 Mean Salinity (ppt) in Sister Lake and Bay Junop

YEAR	SISTER LAKE		BAY JUNOP	
	MAY	JUNE	MAY	JUNE
1995	14.5	8.8	23.3	12.6
1996	15.8	7.4	24.3	12.2
1997	4.1	3.4	10.6	10.7
1998	6.6	4.8	14.4	8.6
1999	17.7	12.4	19.4	13
2000	22	20.5	25.5	27.7
*2001	17.6	8.2	18.4	9.8
*2002	14.2	11.1	16.6	15.9
*2003	15.4	7.2	18.2	8.9
*2004	17.2	12.2	18.9	18.6
mean	14.5	9.6	19.0	13.8

*OYSTER DREDGE SAMPLES

Table 13 Sister Lake Hooked Mussel Distribution

	200	202	203	207	213	214	215	216	217
1998	2	48	0	112	123	64	31	35	534
1999	28	59	85	85	23	51	567	45	201
2000	2	2	0	11	27	19	6	22	9
2001	764	3	0	0	129	350	0	124	36
2002	322	9	0	36	247	145	4	5	0
2003	224	38	3	73	506	28	0	37	73
2004	146	9	0	110	51	28	23	131	283

*** Hooked Mussels in sample – sample and replicate combined to show total mussels for each station

Table 14 Bay Junop Hooked Mussel Distribution

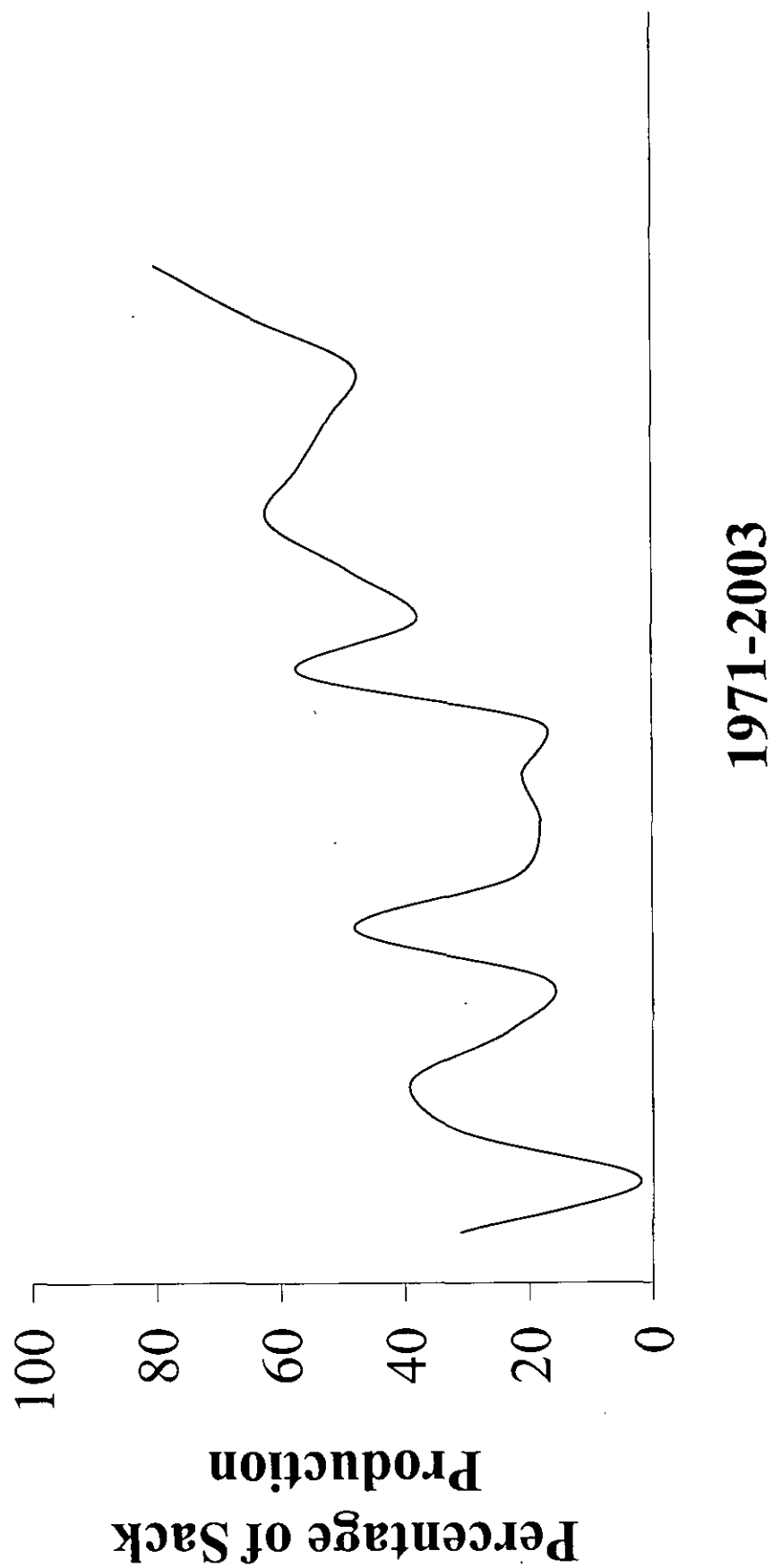
	251	252	253	254**	255
1998	0	19	88	750	78
1999	136	24	20	452	25
2000	308	0	9	14	17
2001	0	49	0	78	0
2002*	0	0	0	0	0
2003	396	55	10	-	2
2004	161	47	0	-	5

* No Data Collected – Noted that some stations may have had five or less

** Suspended due to conflict with private lease

*** Hooked Mussels in sample – sample and replicate combined to show total mussels for each station

**Figure 5 Sack Production Percentage of
Total Production**



CSA VI

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
2415 John Darnall Road
New Iberia, LA 70560
(337) 373-0032

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patrick Banks
FROM: E. Paul Cook
DATE: July 14, 2004
SUBJECT: CSA 6 Square Meter Oyster Samples / 2004

Square meter field sampling of designated sites on the inshore and offshore areas of the Vermilion, East and West cote Blanche and Atchafalaya Bays Public Oyster Seed Ground was completed on June 30, 2004. A total of 5 (five) stations were sampled with one additional replicate made at each station.

Results of the 2004 samples follows:

STATION NO.	STATION NAME	AVG. NO. LIVE SEED OYSTERS	AVG. NO. LIVE SACK OYSTERS
001	South Pt. / M. I.	6.0	0.0
002	Big Charles / SWP	5.5	0.0
003	Indian Pt. / SWP	11.0	0.0
004	Dry Reef	0.0	0.0
005	Bayou Blanc	0.5	0.0

An overall Vermilion Bay area stock assessment is not possible at this time as figures relative to oyster reef sizes are not available.

This years samples found no sack oysters that would potentially be available for harvest.

It is evident from this years results that the oyster resource has once again been affected by low salinity conditions. Numbers of live oysters present in 2004 are well below those resulting from the increased and more stable salinities seen during the drought period of 1999 through 2000 (See Table 5.1).

Table 5.1

Vermilion / Atchafalaya Area Oyster Availability (by year)		
Year	Seed/Sack Ratio (M²)	Average No. Oysters/Sample (M²)
1999	69.0:1	14.0
2000	34.0:1	90.9
2001	9.5:1	41.9
2002	22.5:1	13.6
2003	No Sack Oysters	01.9
2004	No Sack Oysters	4.6

Atchafalaya River discharge for the spring and early summer 2004 remained at levels that significantly affected hydrologic conditions in the Vermilion / Atchafalaya Bays Complex. Average salinity for sampled sites fell below 2.0 ppt in May 2004 and has remained at very low levels throughout June as well. All sites sampled with the square meter on June 30 were below 1.0 ppt (See Table 5.2).

Table 5.2

Vermilion / Atchafalaya Area M² Site Salinity and Water Temperature (6/30/04)			
STATION NO.	STATION NAME	SALINITY (ppt)	TEMPERATURE (°C)
001	South Point / M. I.	0.2	28.9
002	Big Charles / SWP	0.9	29.1
003	Indian Point / SWP	0.9	29.1
004	Dry Reef	0.3	28.1
005	Bayou Blanc	0.3	29.4

Recent oyster mortality on the seed ground has been noted from dredge samples taken in 2004. Though salinity levels were low throughout the spring, (March, April, May 2004) no oyster mortality was observed. Dredge samples taken on May 20, 2004 averaged 145.3 live oysters with no recent mortality noted (the ratio of seed/sack oysters was 112:1), but the average salinity for sampled sites had fallen to 1.1 ppt. By June 28, 2004 the average number of live oysters in samples had fallen to 43.3 and a recent mortality rate of 100% and 59% was noted for Bayou Blanc and South Point/Marsh Island respectively.

A chart tracking hooked mussel fouling over the past 5 (five) years (see Table 5.3) indicates that levels have remained relatively low in the eastern part of system (Bayou Blanc and South Point/Marsh Island). A significant decrease in fouling was noted at the Big Charles and Dry Reef sites for 2004.

Table 5.3

Vermilion / Atchafalaya Hooked Mussel Distribution (by year) *						
Station No.	Station Name	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
001	South Point/Marsh Island	58	3	8	19	34
002	Big Charles	16	54	187	172	45
003	Indian Point	304	180	31	90	92
004	Dry Reef	9	78	NDA	468	23
005	Bayou Blanc	31	51	65	64	33

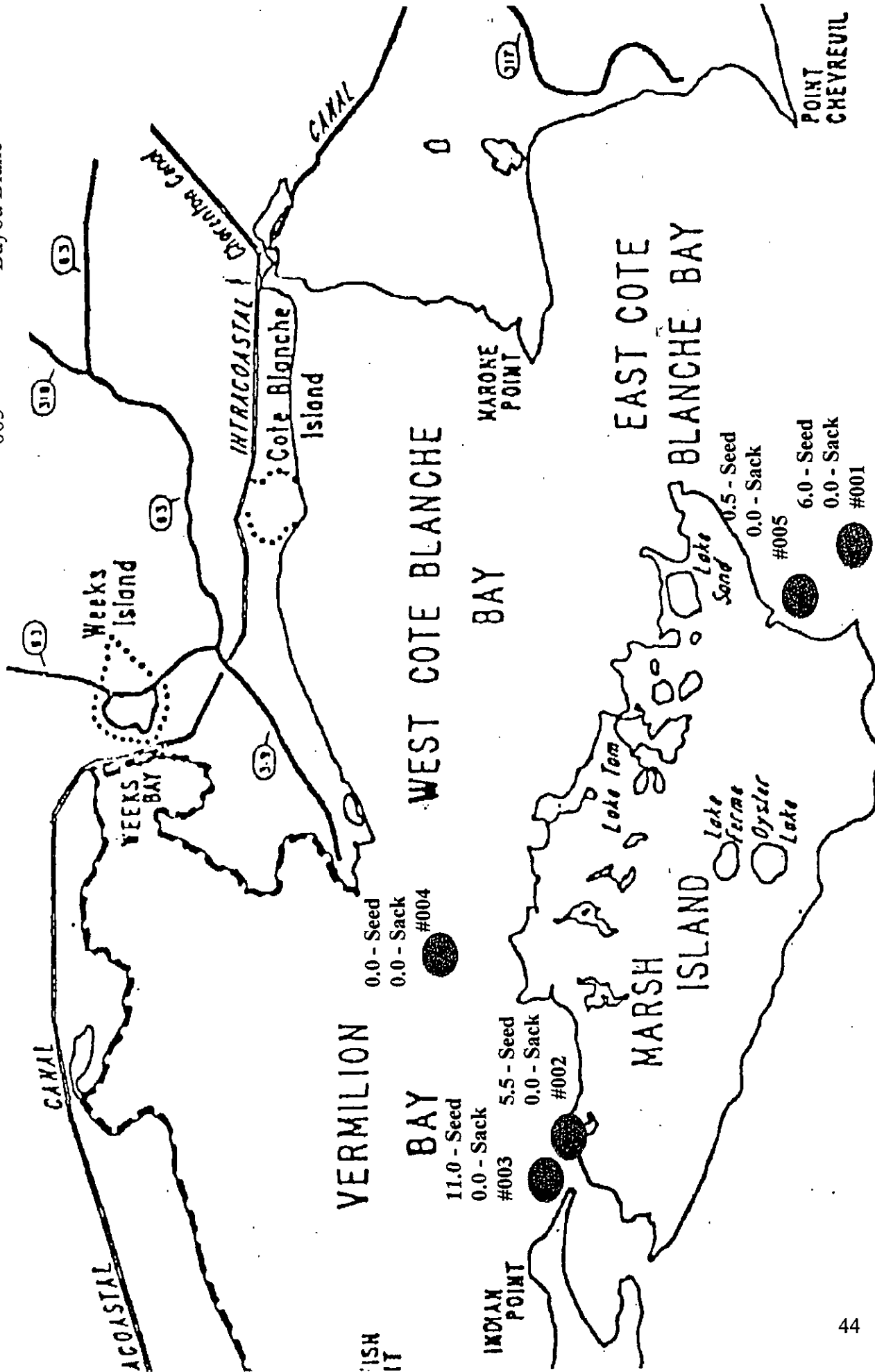
*Average number hooked mussels per M² sample.

"Dermo" samples from the eastern and western part of the system were delivered to Dr. Tom Soniat on July 1, 2004. Results of his analysis were not available for this report.

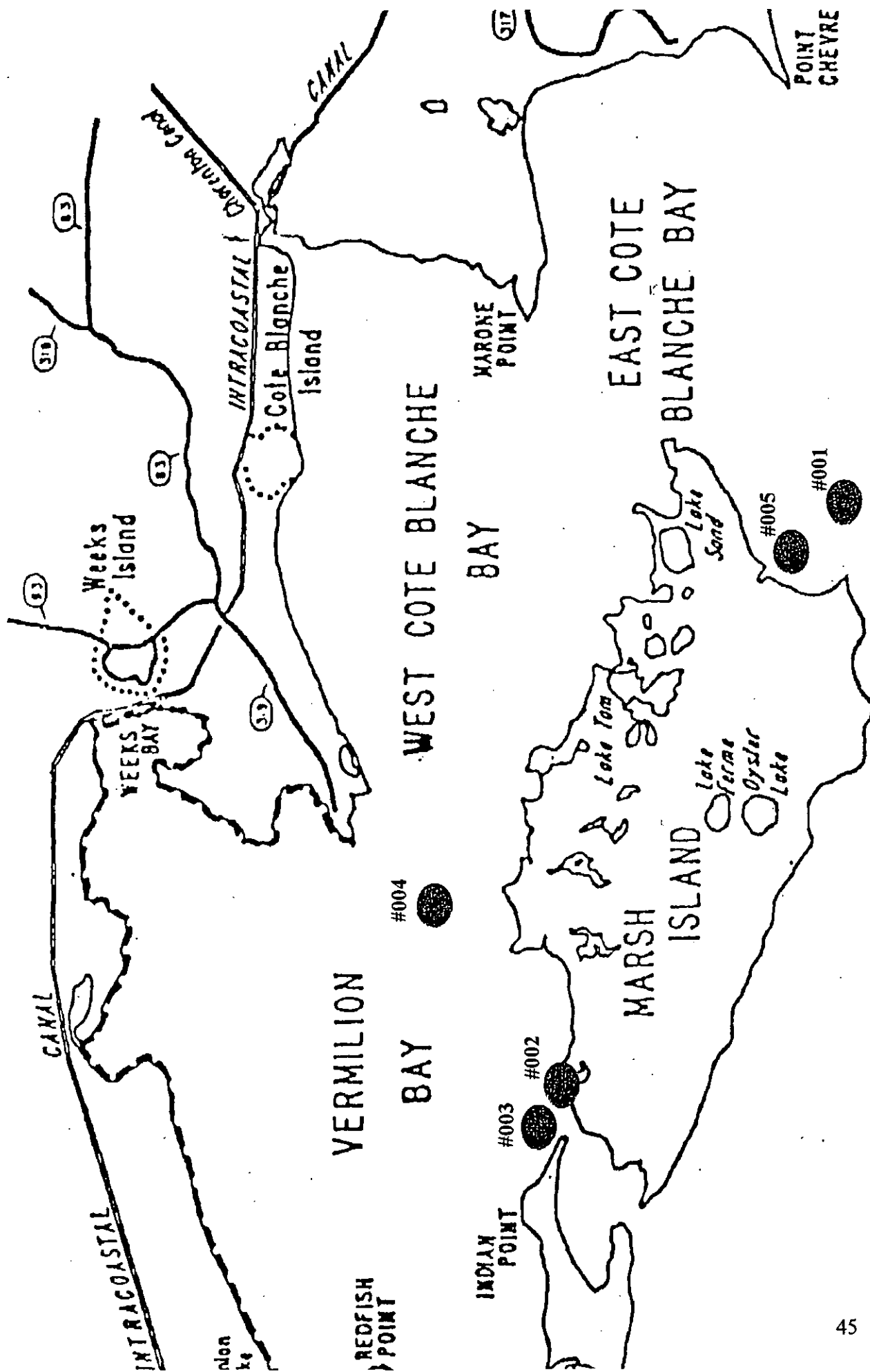
Maps and graphs depicting the 2004 CSA 6 assessment are presented as follows:

EPC/dgg

- 001 South Point
- 002 Big Charles
- 003 Indian Point
- 004 Dry Reef
- 005 Bayou Blanc



2004 SQUARE METER / CSA 6	STATION NAME	STATION NO.	LATITUDE	LONGIT
	South Point	001	N29°28.980'	W91°45.4
	Big Charles	002	N29°36.853'	W91°59.2
	Indian Point	003	N29°37.112'	W92°00.5
	Dry Reef	004	N29°41.179'	W91°54.1
	Bayou Blanc	005	N29°30.800'	W91°45.5



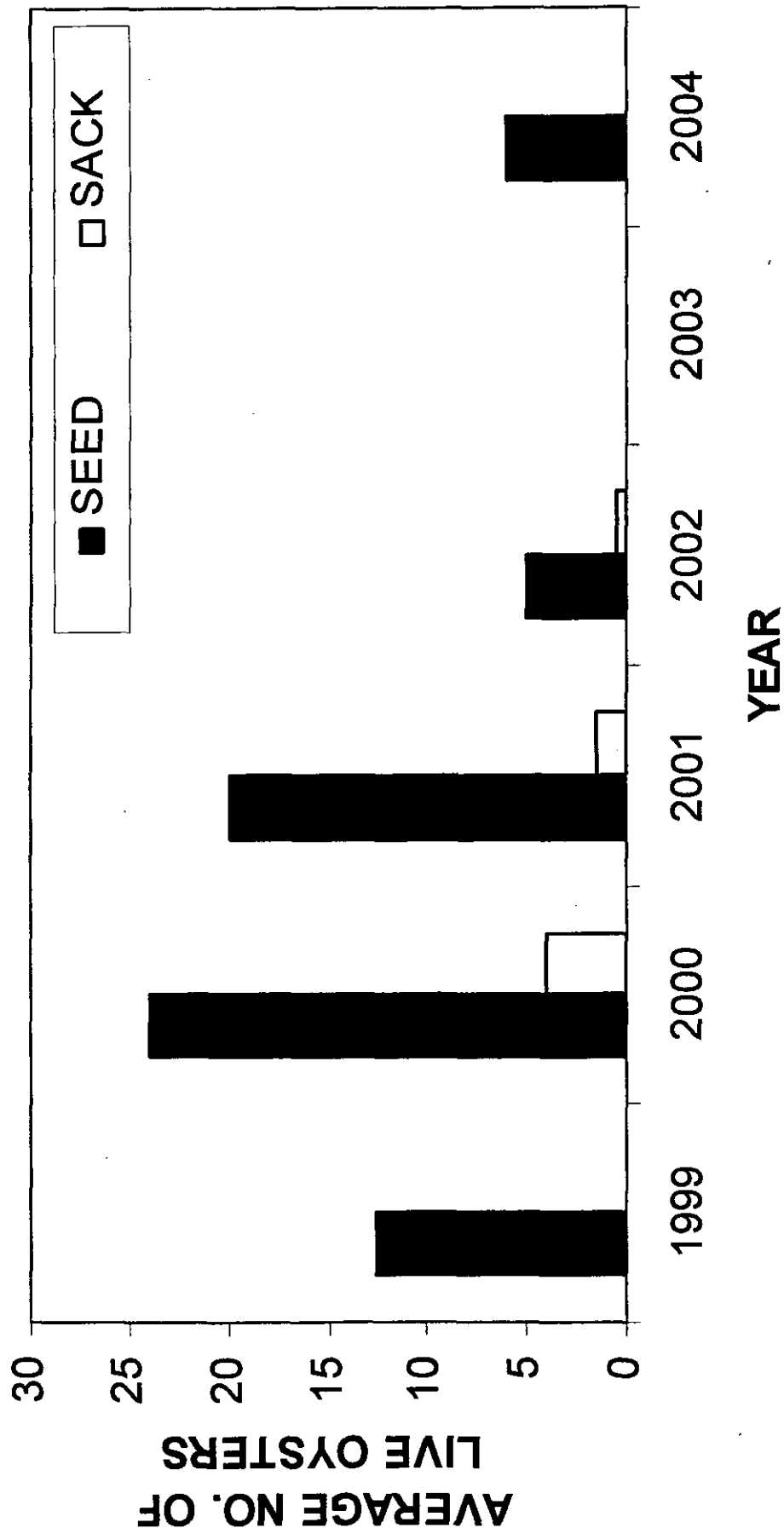


Figure 6.1. Average number of oysters per square meter at South Point (Station 001) in Coastal Study Area VI.

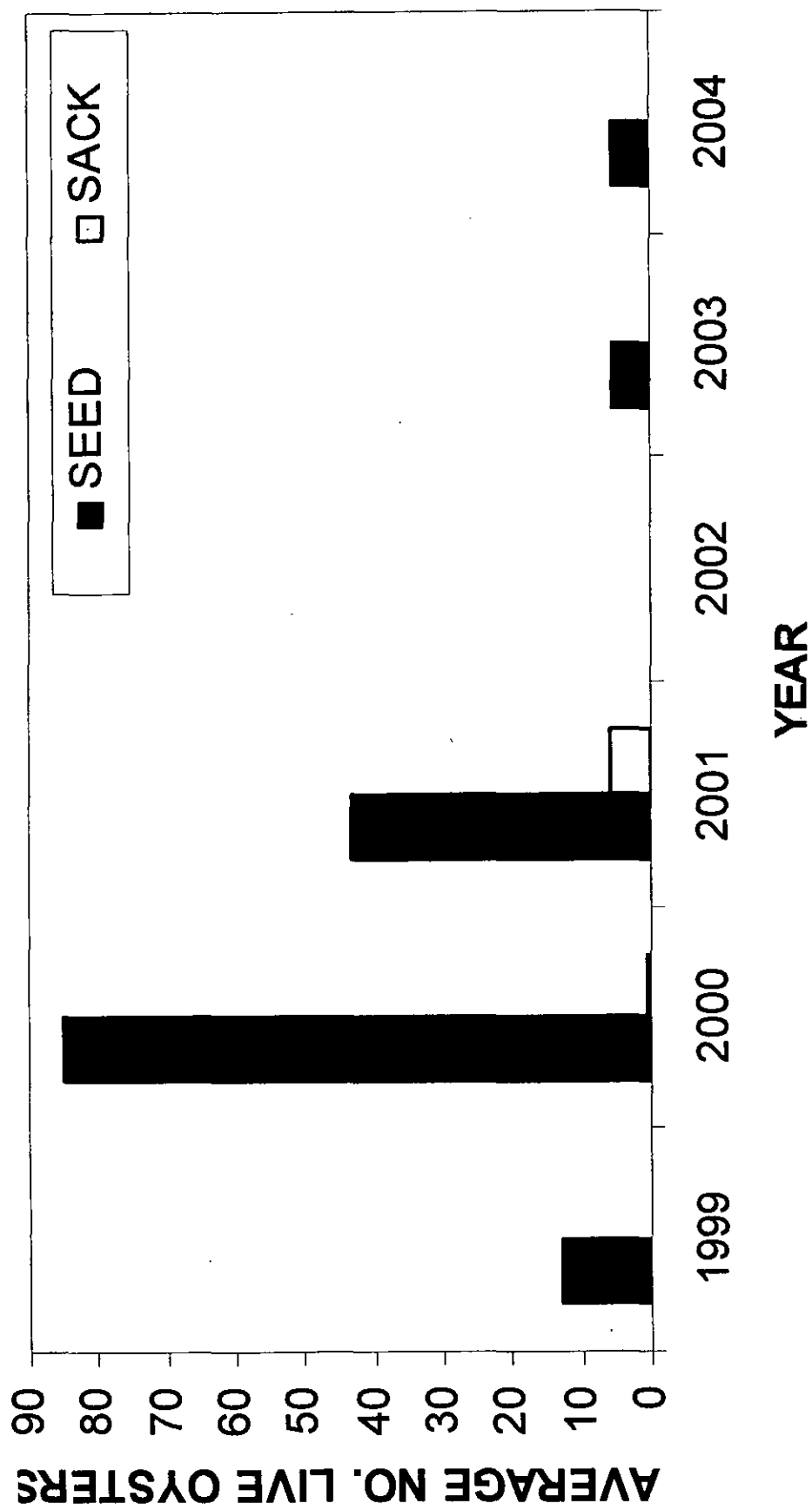


Figure 6.2. Average number of oysters per square meter at Big Charles (Station 002) in Coastal Study Area VI.

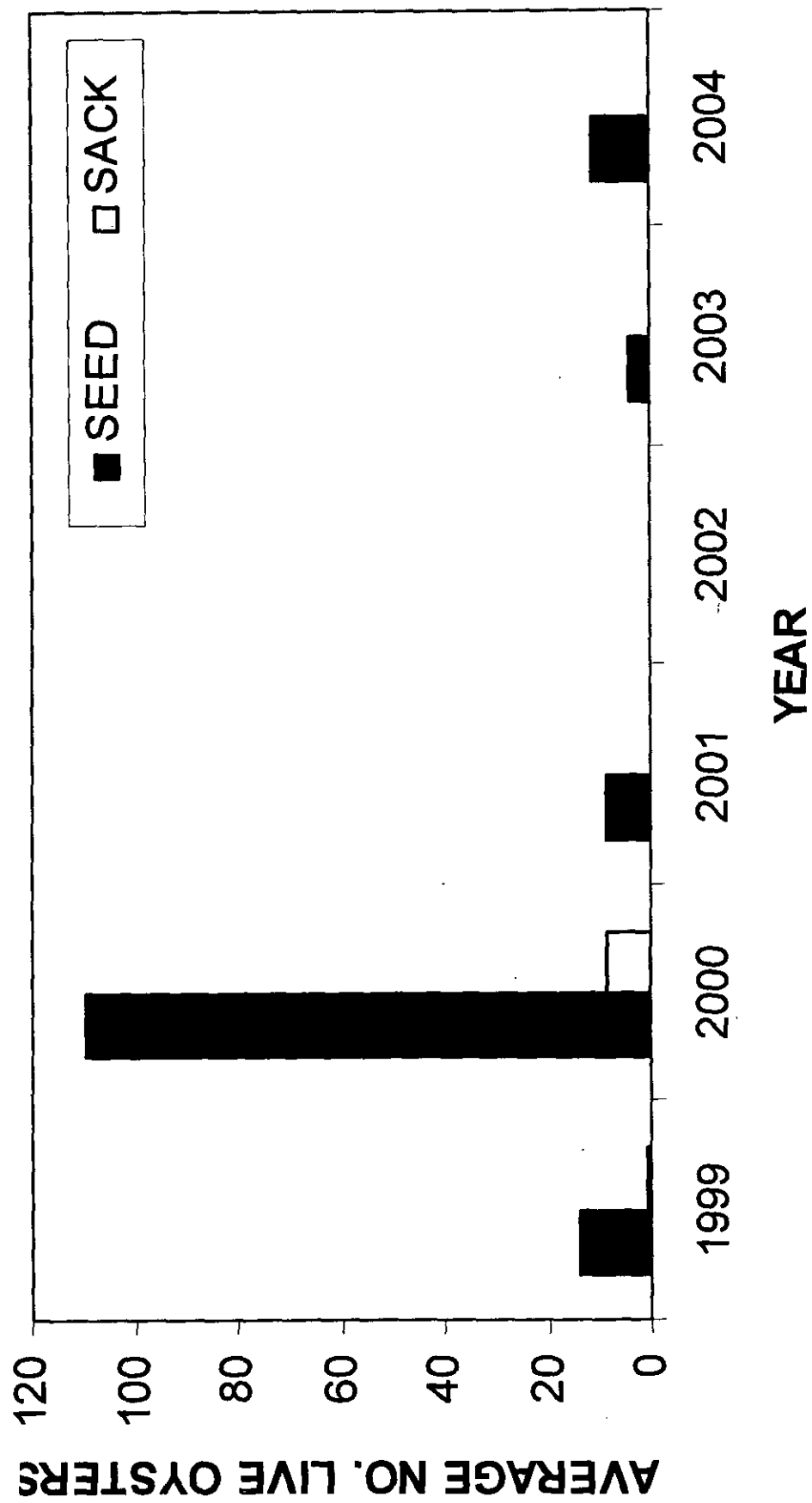


Figure 6.3. Average number of oysters per square meter at Indian Point (Station 003) in Coastal Study Area VI.

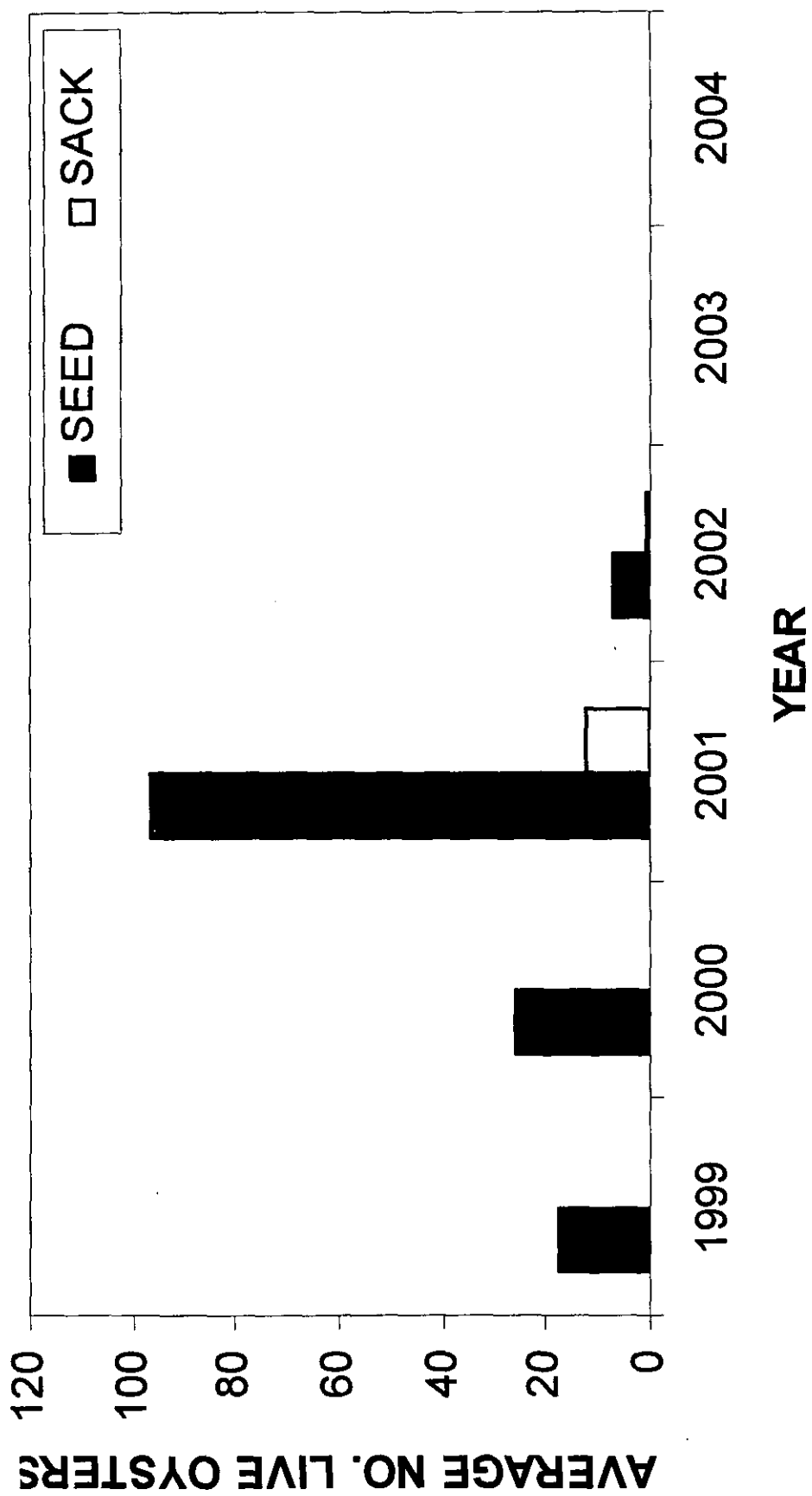


Figure 6.4. Average number of oysters per square meter at Dry Reef (Station 004) in Coastal Study Area VI.

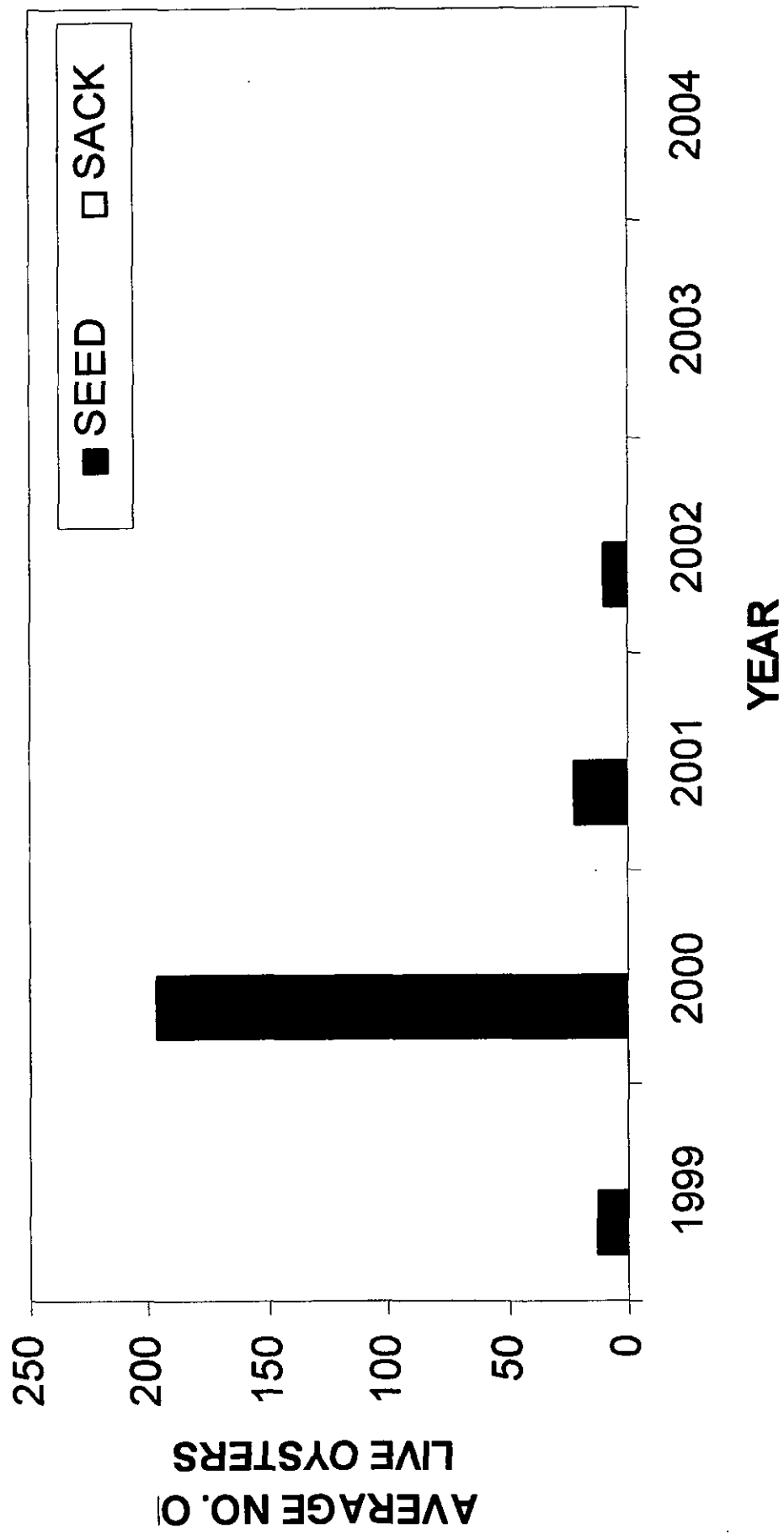


Figure 6.5. Average number of oysters per square meter at Bayou Blanc (Station 005) in Coastal Study Area VI.

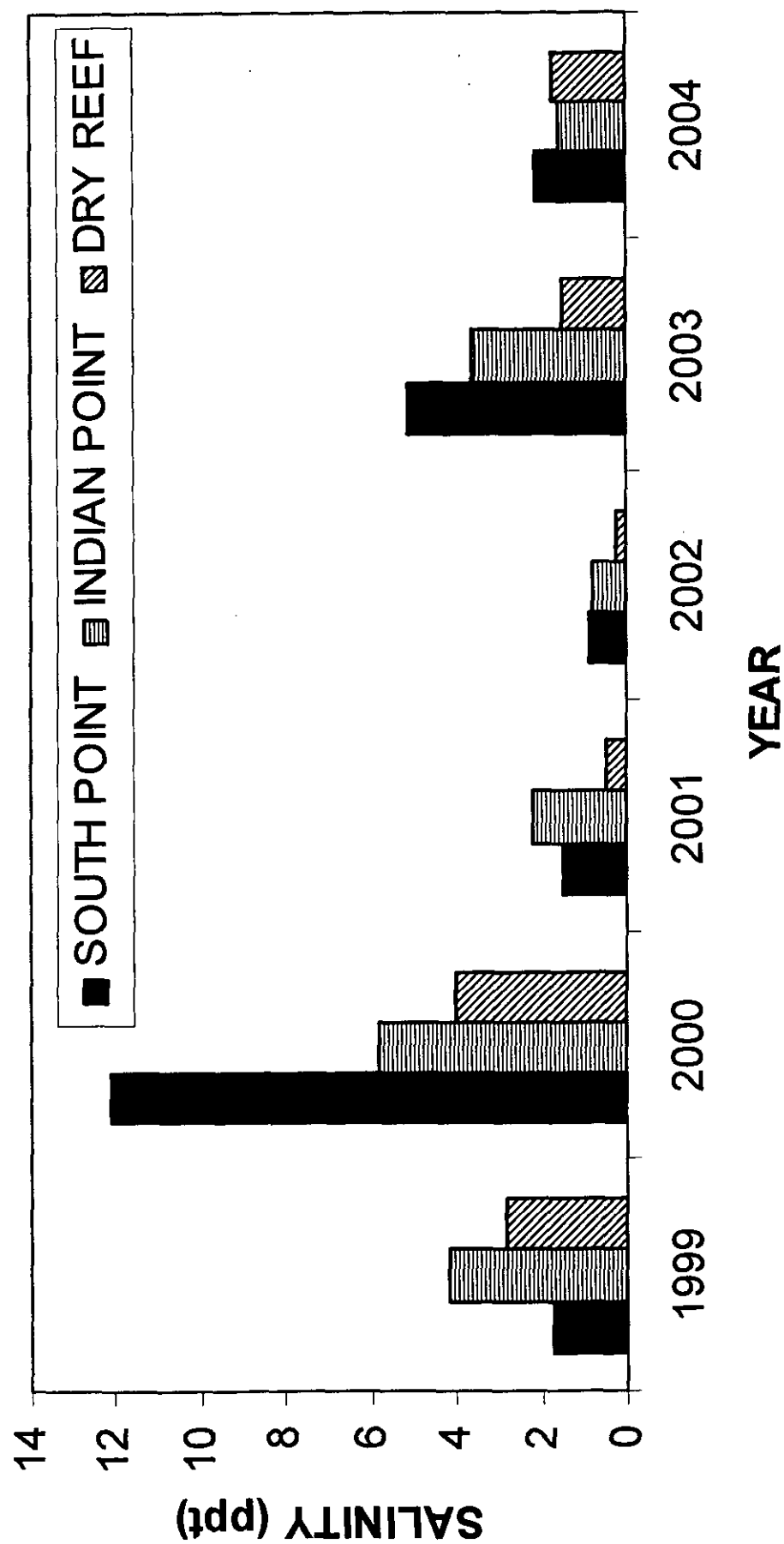


Figure 6.6. Average May salinities at South Point, Indian Point, and Dry Reef in Coastal Study Area VI.

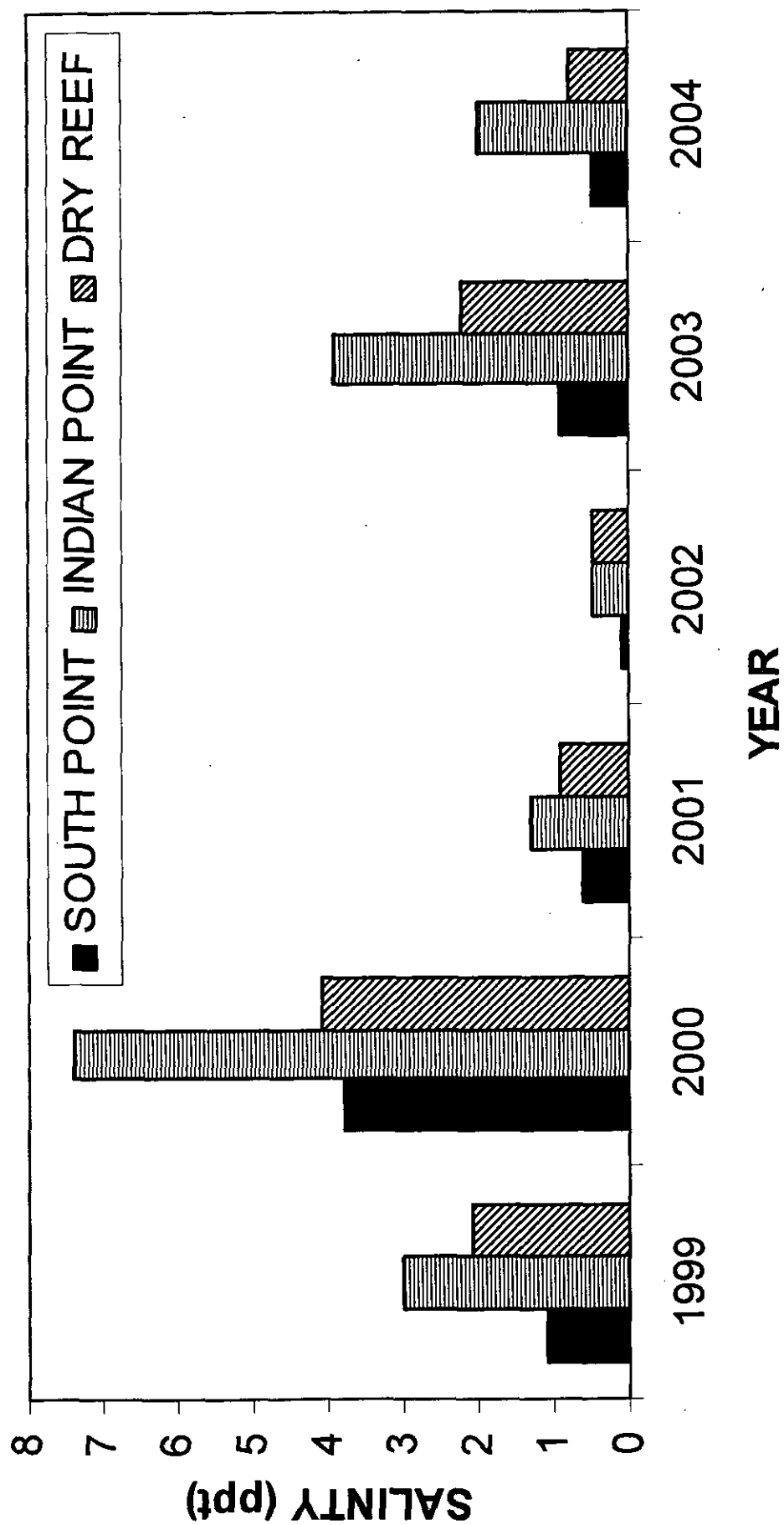


Figure 6.7. Average June salinities at South Point, Indian Point, and Dry Reef in Coastal Study Area VI.

CSA VII

State of Louisiana



Dwight Landreneau
Secretary

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
1213 North Lakeshore Drive
Lake Charles, LA 70601
(337)491-2579

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

MEMORANDUM

TO: PATRICK BANKS, BIOLOGIST SUPERVISOR
FROM: MICHAEL HARBISON, BIOLOGIST SUPERVISOR, CSA VII
DATE: JULY 7, 2004
SUBJECT: CAL. LAKE OYSTER STOCK ASSESSMENT AND 2004-05 SEASON RECOMMENDATION

OYSTER STOCK ASSESSMENT

Calcasieu Lake is divided into two conditionally managed areas by Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH): Lower Calcasieu Lake Conditionally Managed Area (LCCMA) and West Cove Conditionally Managed Area (WCCMA). All samples are taken from these two areas - three stations in each area.

Oyster square meter samples were taken June 29th. The samples indicated a slight decrease in marketable (> 3") oysters since last years survey. There was a substantial increase in the seed oysters (1 - 3"). This is due to the high recruitment seen during 2003. The marketable oyster's availability is 1,099,236 sacks; this is a decrease of 70,760 sacks from the 2003 assessment. The seed oyster availability is 1,369,323 sacks; this is an increase of 838,657 over the 2003 assessment; total sacks of oysters available are 2,468,560; this is an increase of 767,897 sacks over the 2003 assessment.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER STOCK ASSESMENT

JUNE 2004

OYSTER NUMBERS

WEST COVE CMA					CALCASIEU LAKE CMA				
SIZE	STATION			AVE.	SIZE	STATION			AVE.
	4	5	6			1	2	3	
≥3"	15	16	47	10.5	≥3"	87	37	133	42.8
1-<3"	52	46	98	32.7	1-<3"	211	156	243	101.7

OYSTER PRODUCTION AREA

WEST COVE CMA	CALCASIEU LAKE CMA
2,942,076.67 SQ. METERS	3,901,185.57 SQ. METERS

PRODUCTION OF ≥3" OYSTERS

WEST COVE CMA		CALCASIEU LAKE CMA	
OYSTERS:	30,891,805.035	OYSTERS:	166,970,742.396
SACKS:	171,621.1	SACKS:	927,615.2
TOTAL SACKS OF ≥3" OYSTERS:		1,099,236.3	

PRODUCTION OF 1 - < 3" OYSTERS

WEST COVE CMA		CALCASIEU LAKE CMA	
OYSTERS:	96,205,907.109	OYSTERS:	396,750,572.469
SACKS:	267,238.6	SACKS:	1,102,084.9
TOTAL SACKS OF 1-<3" OYSTERS:		1,369,323.5	

TOTAL PRODUCTION

TOTAL OVERALL POTENTIAL OF OYSTERS (SACKS):	2,468,559.8
---	-------------

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER STOCK ASSESMENT

JULY 2003

OYSTER NUMBERS

WEST COVE CMA					CALCASIEU LAKE CMA				
SIZE	STATION			AVE.	SIZE	STATION			AVE.
	4	5	6			1	2	3	
≥3"	25	26	54	17.5	≥3"	76	34	108	36.3
1-<3"	15	25	61	16.8	1-<3"	95	45	78	36.3

OYSTER PRODUCTION AREA

WEST COVE CMA	CALCASIEU LAKE CMA
2,942,076.67 SQ. METERS	3,901,185.57 SQ. METERS

PRODUCTION OF ≥3" OYSTERS

WEST COVE CMA		CALCASIEU LAKE CMA	
OYSTERS:	68,986,341.73	OYSTERS:	141,613,036.19
SACKS:	383,257.5	SACKS:	786,739.1
TOTAL SACKS OF ≥3" OYSTERS:		1,169,996.6	

PRODUCTION OF 1 - < 3" OYSTERS

WEST COVE CMA		CALCASIEU LAKE CMA	
OYSTERS:	49,426,888.06	OYSTERS:	141,613,036.19
SACKS:	137,296.9	SACKS:	393,369.5
TOTAL SACKS OF 1-<3" OYSTERS:		530,666.4	

TOTAL PRODUCTION

TOTAL OVERALL POTENTIAL OF OYSTERS (SACKS):	1,700,663.0
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CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER AREAS 2004

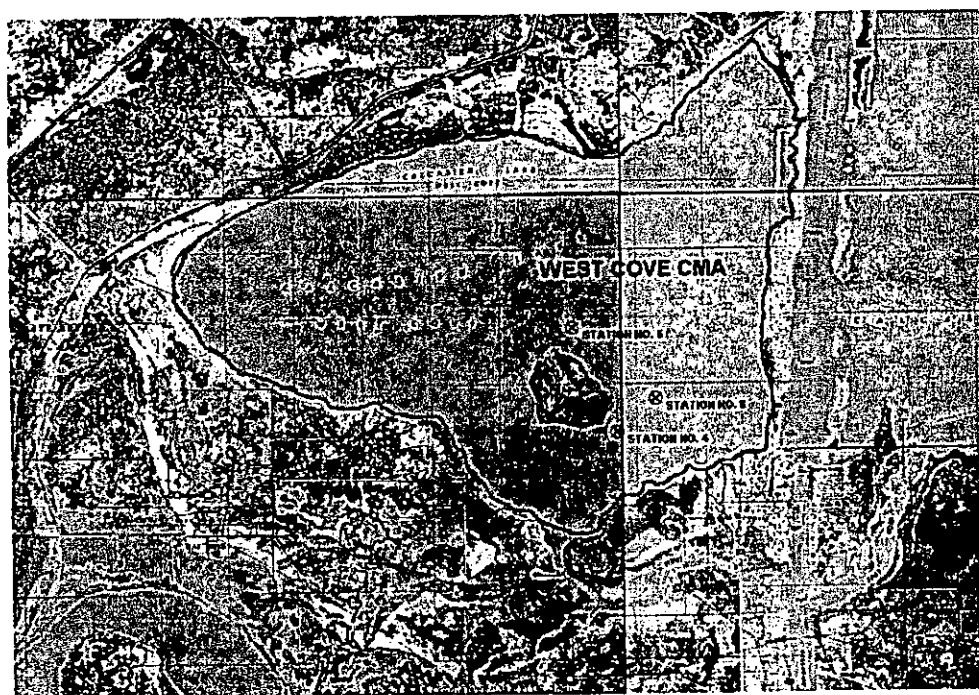
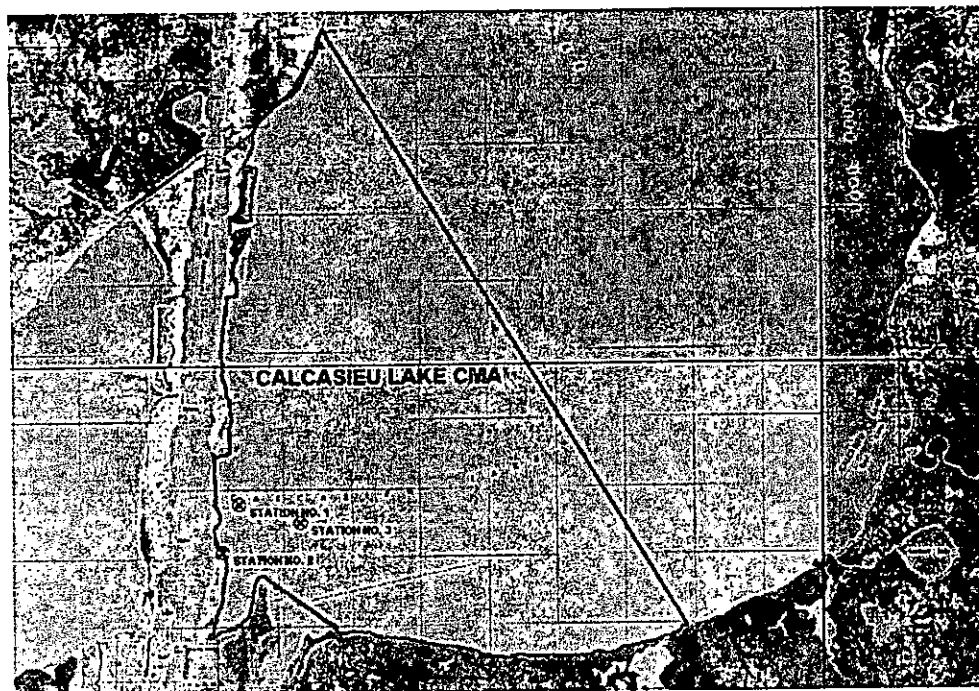


Table 7.1.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER ASSESSMENTS AND HARVEST

SEASON	STOCK ASSESSMENT MARKETABLE	TOTAL	ESTIMATED SACKS HARVESTED
1963	-	-	210,160
1967-74	-	-	No commercial landings
1975-76	142,726	441,183	40,000
1976-77	694,420	869,475	100,000
1977-78	493,673	621,885	141,976
1978-79	-	-	75,000
1979-80	676,333	979,613	125,000
1980-81	355,664	705,117	150,000
1981-82	608,110	988,575	-
1982-83	-	-	50,000-75,000
1983-84	-	-	150,000
1984-85	125,407	644,788	-
1985-86	315,160	537,760	27,400
1986-87	589,940	1,217,959	200,000
1987-88	796,950	2,703,647	125,000
1988-89	463,331	1,036,580	50,000
1989-90	172,046	640,892	40,000
1990-91	408,961	1,268,962	50,000
1991-92	1,048,882	1,731,367	31,383
1992-93	749,915	1,612,736	27,328
1993-94	748,281	1,238,783	12,818
1994-95	756,525	1,246,480	6,134
1995-96	956,926	1,298,379	29,082
1996-97	618,767	1,083,866	43,441
1997-98	950,979	1,706,510	80,735
1998-99	702,371	1,160,115	39,202
1999-00	614,145	1,032,117	50,592
2000-01	846,176	1,197,311	35,881
2001-02	1,163,750	2,409,482	21,297
2002-03	781,676	1,100,257	21,386
2003-04	1,169,997	1,700,663	18,196

Table 7.2

2003 - 2004 CALCASIEU OYSTER SEASON SUMMARY

MONTH	CALCASIEU LAKE CMA		WEST COVE CMA		OYSTER TAG SALES	SACKS LANDED
	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED		
OCTOBER	17	0	17	0	2,000	2,458
NOVEMBER	30	0	28	2	2,000	2,247
DECEMBER	31	0	22	9	3,500	2,937
JANUARY	26	5	12	19	4,100	3,060
FEBRUARY	7	22	0	29	2,000	761
MARCH	31	0	19	12	4,200	4,277
APRIL	30	0	28	2	4,000	2,456
TOTALS	172	27	126	73	21,800	18,196

Table 7.3.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER SEASON
PERCENTAGE OF DAYS OPEN

SEASON	TOTAL DAYS	CALCASIEU LAKE CMA		WEST COVE CMA	
		OPEN DAYS	PERCENTAG	OPEN DAYS	PERCENTAG
1991-92	199	114	57	114	57
1992-93*	165	137	83	76	46
1993-94	181	146	81	84	46
1994-95	181	90	50	9	5
1995-96	188	175	93	115	61
1996-97	197	149	76	114	58
1997-98	197	139	71	96	49
1998-99	197	135	69	120	61
1999-00	197	197	100	182	92
2000-01	198	180	95	106	53
2001-02	198	158	80	61	31
2002-03	198	146	74	66	33
2003-04	199	172	87	126	63

* 92-93 SEASON STARTED USING CALCASIEU RIVER GAUGE AT KINDER FOR DHH CLOSURES.

Table 7.4.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER SEASONS

SEASON	REGULAR SEASON						EXTENDED SEASON						TOTAL DAYS IN SEASON		
	DATES		DHH HEALTH CLOSURES				DATES	DHH HEALTH CLOSURES		WEST COVE CMA					
			CAL. L. CMA	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED	WEST COVE CMA		DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED						
	OPEN DATE	CLOSED DATE	TOTAL DAYS	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED	DAYS OPEN	CLOSED DATE	OPEN DATE	CLOSED DATE	TOTAL DAYS	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED	DAYS OPEN	DAYS CLOSED	
1989-90	11-15	3-15	121	79	42	79	4-30	3-16	4-30	46	40	6	40	6	165
1990-91	11-15	3-1	147	95	52	95	4-20	3-30	4-20	34	20	0	0	0	181
1991-92	10-15	3-1	139	69	70	69	4-30	3-2	4-30	60	45	15	15	15	199
1992-93 ¹	10-15	3-1	138	123	15	76	4-3	3-8	4-3	27	14	13	13	27	165
1993-94	11-1	3-1	121	94	27	61	4-30	3-2	4-30	60	52	8	8	7	181
1994-95 ²	11-1	3-1	121	69	52	9	4-30	3-2	4-30	60	21	39	39	60	181
1995-96	10-16	3-1	138	125	13	80	4-30	3-2	3-31	30	30	0	0	0	-
1996-97	10-16	5-1	197	149	48	83	4-30	4-11	4-30	20	20	0	0	15	188
1997-98	10-16	4-30	197	139	58	101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	197
1998-99 ³	10-16	4-30	197	135	62	77	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	197
1999-00	10-16	4-30	197	197	0	182	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	197
2000-01	10-15	4-30	198	180	18	106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198
2001-02	10-15	4-30	198	158	40	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198
2002-03	10-15	4-30	198	146	52	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	198
2003-04	10-15	4-30	199	172	27	126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	199
2004-05															

1 - STARTING WITH THE 92-93 SEASON CALCASIEU LAKE WAS SPLIT INTO TWO UNITS: CAL. LAKE CMA (W/ RIVER STAGE CLOSURE @ 12 FT.) AND WEST COVE CMA (W/ RIVER STAGE CLOSURE @ 7 FT.).

2 - DHH CLOSED THE CAL. LAKE CMA (FROM 11/1-12/10/94) AND WEST COVE (FROM 11/1-1/28/95) WITH A PRECAUTIONARY (POSSIBLE LEAD CONTAMINATION) CLOSURE.

3 - DURING THIS SEASON THE RIVER LEVEL CRITERIA IN THE CAL. LAKE CMA CHANGED FROM 12 TO 13.5 FT.

Table 7.5.

CALCASIEU LAKE OYSTER SEASON
AVERAGE NUMBER OF OYSTER FISHERMEN AND AVERAGE TAKE PER DAY

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
AVE. NO. FISHERMEN/DAY	34.00	25.50	20.06	22.86	17.50	16.69	13.27			
TOTAL SACKS	80,735	39,202	50,592	35,881	21,297	21,386	18,196			
TOTAL DAYS	139	135	197	180	158	146	172			
AVE. SACKS/DAY	580.83	290.39	256.81	199.34	134.79	146.48	105.79			
AVE. SACKS/FISHERMEN/DAY	17.08	11.39	12.80	8.72	7.70	8.78	7.97			

Dermo
(*Perkinsus marinus*)
Analysis

Levels of the oyster parasite, *Perkinsus marinus*
in Louisiana oysters west of the Mississippi River,
Summer 2004

by

Thomas M. Soniat, Ph.D.

18 July 2004

Among the most significant causes of oyster mortality is the parasite *Perkinsus marinus* (= *Dermocystidium marinum*), which is responsible for annual mortality rates that exceed 50% in most populations of adult eastern oysters, *Crassostrea virginica*. *Perkinsus marinus* was described in 1950 by John Mackin, Malcom Owen and Albert Collier as *Dermocystidium marinum* -- hence the common name "Dermo" which is still in use (Mackin et al. 1950).

The discovery of the parasite was the result of investigations (funded by a consortium of oil companies and directed by Texas A&M University) of the impact of oil and gas activities on the Louisiana oyster industry (Mackin and Hopkins, 1962). Extensive studies were conducted on the effects of crude oil, bleedwater, natural gas, drilling mud and seismographic surveys. It was ultimately realized that none of these pollutants or activities could not explain the widespread mortalities of oysters that were observed. It is now known that the parasite is a major cause of mortality from Maine to Mexico (Soniati, 1996).

The main environmental factors which favor the proliferation of the parasite are high water temperatures and high salinities. Thus infections are more intense in the late summer and on the seaward side of estuaries. Management techniques to minimize disease and increase oyster harvest include moving infected oysters to lower salinity, early harvest of infected populations, and even freshwater diversion into high-salinity estuaries. The success of oyster farming often depends on the ability to manage oyster population in the presence of high levels of disease (Soniati and Kortright, 1998).

The standard assay for determining the level of parasitism is the fluid thioglycollate method (Ray, 1966). The length of ten oysters is measured and a small piece of tissue is removed and assayed for disease after incubation in fluid thioglycollate and antibiotics for one week. *P. marinus* intensity is scored using a 0-to-5 scale developed by Mackin (1962), where 0 is no

infection and 5 is an infection in which the oyster tissue is almost entirely obscured by the parasite. Calculations are made of percent infection (PI) and weighted incidence (WI), which is the sum of the disease code numbers divided by the total number of oysters in the sample. A WI of 1.5 could be considered a level at which disease-related mortalities are occurring. For example, Mackin (1962) claims: "a population of live oyster with a weighted incidence of 2.0 contains an intense epidemic, and more than half of the population may be in advanced stages of the disease, with all of the individuals infected."

Oysters for this summer's study were collected from 8 sites west of the Mississippi River. Two sites were in Sister Lake, two in Bay Junop, two in the Atchafalaya area, and two in Lake Calcasieu. The Sister Lake sites were Grand Pass (GP) and Old Camp (OC), the Bay Junop sites were Bayou DeWest (DW) and Buckskin Bayou (BS), the Atchafalaya sites were Indian Point (IP) and South Point (SP), and the Lake Calcasieu sites were Big Washout (BW) and Northeast Rabbit Island (NR).

Rectal tissue was removed from each of 10 oysters, incubated at room temperature in fluid thioglycollate for about a week, and assayed according to the standard Ray (1966) technique. The level of infection (disease code) was scored from 0 to 5, where 0 is no infection and 5 is near total coverage of the oyster tissue by the parasite. Weighted incidence (WI) was calculated by summing the disease code values and dividing by 10, the number of oysters in the sample.

WI values were 0.033 (GP), 0.066 (OC), 0.033 (DW), 0.000 (BS), 0.000 (IP), 0.000 (SP), 0.165 (BW) and 0.066 (NR). Salinities were relatively low this summer and this was reflected in lower levels of disease. The Lake Calcasieu sites typically have higher salinities than the other sites, but temperature and salinity data for that area was not provided. The Lake Calcasieu sites had higher disease levels than the Sister Lake and Bay Junop sites. Atchafalaya sites had

extremely low salinities, small oysters and no disease (Table 1). Disease levels from the summer 2004 samples are relatively low and well below critical levels. Drought conditions have abated and this is reflected in the low levels of Dermo.

Table 1. Summary data and results from the 2004 Dermo study.

Station	Date sampled	Salinity (ppt)	Temperature (C)	Size range (mm)	Percent infection	Weighted incidence
Grand Pass	07/07/04	3.0	30.9	86-125	10%	0.033
Old Camp	07/07/04	7.1	31.6	89-109	20%	0.066
Bayou DeWest	07/07/04	12.5	30.8	92-105	10%	0.033
Buckskin Bayou	07/07/04	1.5	30.2	90-125	0%	0.000
Indian Point	06/30/04	0.9	29.1	52-75	0%	0.000
South Point	06/30/04	0.2	28.9	31-61	0%	0.000
Big Washout	06/30/04	*	*	82-112	50%	0.165
NE Rabbit Island	06/30/04	*	*	82-120	20%	0.066

* data not provided

Literature Cited

Mackin, J.G. 1962. Oyster disease caused by *Dermocystidium marinum* and other microorganisms in Louisiana. Publ. Inst. Mar. Sci. Univ. Tex. 7:132-299

Mackin, J.G. and S.H. Hopkins. 1962. Studies on oyster mortality in relation to natural environments and to oil fields in Louisiana. Publ. Inst. Mar. Sci. Univ. Tex. 7:1-131.

Mackin, J.G., H.M. Owen and A. Collier. 1950. Preliminary note on the occurrence of a new protistan parasite, *Dermocystidium marinum* n.sp. in *Crassostrea virginica* (Gmelin) Science 111:328-329.

Ray S.M. 1966. A review of the culture method for detecting *Dermocystidium marinum* with suggested modifications and precautions. Proc. Natl. Shellfish. Assoc. 54:55-70.

Soniat, T.M. 1996. Epizootiology of *Perkinsus marinus* disease of eastern oysters in the Gulf of Mexico. J. Shellfish Res. 15:35-43.

Soniat, T.M. and E.V. Kortright. 1998. Estimating time to critical levels of *Perkinsus marinus* in eastern oysters, *Crassostrea virginica*. J. Shellfish Res. 17:1071-1080.

2004 DERMO RESULTS EAST OF RIVER & HACKBERRY BAY

Dr. John Supan
Louisiana State University

	Seed		Market	
	Prevalence	Weighted Incidence	Prevalence	Weighted Incidence
Bay Gardene	47%	0.2	27%	0.1
Lonesome I.	13%	0.2	63%	0.4
Mozambique Pt.	23%	0.1	38%	0.2
N. Black Bay	43%	0.2	68%	0.4
S. Black Bay	47%	0.2	27%	0.2
Bay Crabe	73%	0.5	66%	0.3
Telegraph Pt.	66%	0.3	53%	0.4
Cabbage Reef	27%	0.1	70%	0.7
Three Mile	17%	0.08	33%	0.2
Hackberry Bay	20%	0.1	40%	0.2

Mackin Scale (0-5) used to determine incidence.

RESOLUTION
2004/2005 Oyster Season on the Public Oyster Grounds
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433 provides that the Public Oyster Seed Grounds may be fished starting on the first Wednesday following Labor Day which in 2004 is September 8, and

WHEREAS, the oyster resources on the "Public Oyster Seed Grounds, Seed Reservations, and Tonging Areas" have been surveyed and the available supply and size variation has been determined, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:433(B.2) mandates a sacking only area on the Public Grounds east of the Mississippi River, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:435.1.1 authorizes the Commission to set the harvest limit in the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground to be no more than 15 sacks of oysters per day per licensed vessel, and

WHEREAS, the Commission has considered the recommendations of the Louisiana Oyster Task Force as provided for in R.S. 56:433(B.1),

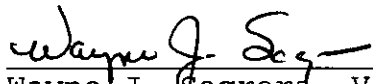
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2004/2005 oyster season on Louisiana's public oyster seed grounds, seed reservations, and tonging areas is detailed in the following Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action, if necessary, to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended or may open areas if substantial oyster resources are located, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the notice of any opening, delaying, or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action, unless such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2004/2005 oyster seasons on the public oyster grounds, reservations, and tonging areas is attached to and made part of this resolution.



Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) and 967(D), and under the authority of R.S. 56:433, R.S. 56:435.1, and R.S. 56:435.1.1 notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

The oyster season in the Vermilion Bay Public Oyster Seed Ground as described in LAC 76:VII.507 and LAC 76:VII.509 will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 8, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Gardene Public Oyster Seed Reservation as described in R.S. 56:434.E will open one-half hour before sunrise on September 15, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster seasons in the primary public oyster seed grounds east of the Mississippi River as described in LAC 76:VII.511 and LAC 76:VII.513 are as follows: 1) That portion of the public oyster seed grounds bordered on the north by the Louisiana/Mississippi state line and on the south by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet, including that portion of Lake Borgne as described in LAC 76:VII.513, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005, and 2) That portion of the public oyster seed grounds east of the

Mississippi River bordered on the north by the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet and on the south by the Mississippi River and North Pass, including the sacking only area of the public grounds which is generally Lake Fortuna and Lake Machias to a line from Mozambique Point to Point Gardner to Grace Point at the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on April 1, 2005.

The oyster season in the Bay Junop Public Oyster Seed Reservation as described in R.S. 56:434.E will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 1, 2004 and will close one-half hour after sunset on October 10, 2004.

The oyster season in the Lake Mechant Public Oyster Seed Grounds as described in LAC 76:VII.517, with the exception of the 2004 cultch plant within the following corners: 1) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes and 45.106 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 54.820 seconds west, 2) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 26.090 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 55.329 seconds west, 3) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 25.879 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 45.090 west, and 4) latitude 29 degrees 18 minutes 44.895 seconds north and longitude 90 degrees 56 minutes 44.580 seconds west, will open one-half hour before sunrise on October 11, 2004 and close one-half hour after sunset on October 31, 2004.

The oyster season for the Calcasieu Lake public oyster ground as described in R.S. 56:435.1.1 will open one-half hour before

sunrise on October 15, 2004 and will remain open until one-half hour after sunset on April 30, 2005. The sack limit for Calcasieu Lake is set at 15 sacks per day as provided for in R.S. 56:435.1.1.

However, these conservation actions will not supercede public health closures.

The following areas will remain closed for the 2004/2005 oyster season: the Hackberry Bay and Sister Lake Public Oyster Seed Reservations (as described in R.S. 56:434.E), the Public Oyster Seed Grounds located in portions of Lake Tambour, Lake Chien, Lake Felicity, Deep Lake, and Barataria Bay (as described in LAC 76:VII.517), and the Sabine Lake public oyster tonging area (as described in R.S. 56:435.1).

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take emergency action as necessary to close areas if oyster mortalities are occurring or to delay the season or close areas where significant spat catch has occurred with good probability of survival, or where it is found that there are excessive amounts of shell in seed oyster loads and the reef is being adversely impacted, or if enforcement problems are encountered.

The Secretary is authorized to take emergency action to reopen areas previously closed if the threat to the resource has ended, or may open areas if substantial oyster resources are located.

Notice of any opening, delaying or closing of a season will be made by public notice at least 72 hours prior to such action unless

such closure is ordered by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals for public health concerns.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

RESOLUTION

2004 COMMERCIAL DEEP-WATER GROUPER CLOSURE

August 5, 2004

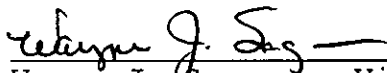
- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery is composed of five species of grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) that are harvested in deeper waters off of Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, rules for commercial harvest of deep-water grouper are established by NMFS, to provide for a commercial harvest quota for deep-water grouper in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has received notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS that the commercial quota for the deep-water grouper fishery is projected to have been filled on July 15, 2004, for the first time, and
- WHEREAS, the NMFS and the Gulf Council have sent notice to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby closes the 2004 commercial fishery for

harvest of deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters, effective 12 noon on August 8, 2004 until 12:01 a.m. January 1, 2005, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and re-close the commercial deep-water grouper fishery season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season for the commercial harvest of deep-water grouper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein has been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency closing the 2004 commercial deep-water grouper fishery in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this Resolution.



Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004 Commercial Deep-Water Grouper Closure

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

Effective 12:00 noon, August 8, 2004, the commercial fishery for deep-water groupers (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) in Louisiana waters, as described in LAC 76:VII.357.B.1 will close and remain closed until 12:01 a.m., January 1, 2005. Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of deep-water grouper by legally licensed recreational fishermen during the open season for recreational harvest.

Effective with this closure, no person shall commercially harvest, possess, purchase, exchange, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, exchange, barter, trade or sell deep-water groupers whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters. Also effective with this closure, no person shall possess deep-water groupers in excess of a daily bag limit, which may only be in possession during the open recreational season. Nothing shall prohibit the possession or sale of fish by a commercial

dealer if legally taken prior to the closure providing that all commercial dealers possessing deep-water groupers taken legally prior to the closure shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and close the commercial season for deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of deep-water groupers in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been notified by the National Marine Fisheries Service that the commercial quota for deep-water groupers was projected to be reached on July 15, 2004, and that the Federal season closure is necessary to ensure that the quota for deep-water grouper for 2004 is not exceeded.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(727) 570-5305; FAX (727) 570-5583
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

(Handwritten signature)

JUL 1 2004

F/SER23:PS

Mr. Dwight Landreneau, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000

Dear Mr. Landreneau:

This advises you that the commercial fishery for deep-water grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) in Gulf of Mexico federal waters will close at 12:01 a.m., July 15, 2004, when the commercial quota of 1.02 million pounds is projected to be caught.

NOAA Fisheries requests that Louisiana implement compatible regulations in state waters.

Sincerely yours,

(Handwritten signature of Roy E. Crabtree)

Roy E. Crabtree Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

cc: K. Foote, LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
F/SF, F/SEC, GCSE



RESOLUTION

2004 COMMERCIAL DEEP-WATER GROUPER CLOSURE
August 5, 2004

- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana is cooperatively managed by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) with advice from the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council), and
- WHEREAS, the deep-water grouper fishery is composed of five species of grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) that are harvested in deeper waters off of Louisiana, and
- WHEREAS, regulations promulgated by NMFS are applicable in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the U.S., generally three miles offshore, and
- WHEREAS, rules for commercial harvest of deep-water grouper are established by NMFS, to provide for a commercial harvest quota for deep-water grouper in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and
- WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has received notice from the Gulf Council and NMFS that the commercial quota for the deep-water grouper fishery is projected to have been filled on July 15, 2004, for the first time, and
- WHEREAS, the NMFS and the Gulf Council have sent notice to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries requesting consistent regulations in Louisiana state waters which are preferable as they assist in enforcement of fishery rules, and
- WHEREAS, in order to enact regulations in a timely manner, it is necessary that emergency rules be enacted, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and
- WHEREAS, R.S. 56:326.3 provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish,
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby closes the 2004 commercial fishery for

harvest of deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters, effective 12 noon on August 8, 2004 until 12:01 a.m. January 1, 2005, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this Declaration of Emergency, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and re-close the commercial deep-water grouper fishery season in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by the Regional Administrator of NMFS that the season for the commercial harvest of deep-water grouper in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein has been modified, and that the Regional Administrator of NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a Declaration of Emergency closing the 2004 commercial deep-water grouper fishery in Louisiana state waters is attached to and made part of this Resolution.

Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004 Commercial Deep-Water Grouper Closure

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B), the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons, and R.S. 56:326.3 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may set seasons for saltwater finfish, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby declares:

Effective 12:00 noon, August 8, 2004, the commercial fishery for deep-water groupers (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) in Louisiana waters, as described in LAC 76:VII.357.B.1 will close and remain closed until 12:01 a.m., January 1, 2005. Nothing herein shall preclude the legal harvest of deep-water grouper by legally licensed recreational fishermen during the open season for recreational harvest.

Effective with this closure, no person shall commercially harvest, possess, purchase, exchange, barter, trade, sell or attempt to purchase, exchange, barter, trade or sell deep-water groupers whether taken from within or without Louisiana territorial waters. Also effective with this closure, no person shall possess deep-water groupers in excess of a daily bag limit, which may only be in possession during the open recreational season. Nothing shall prohibit the possession or sale of fish by a commercial

dealer if legally taken prior to the closure providing that all commercial dealers possessing deep-water groupers taken legally prior to the closure shall maintain appropriate records in accordance with R.S. 56:306.5 and R.S. 56:306.6.

The Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to re-open and close the commercial season for deep-water groupers in Louisiana state waters if he is informed by NMFS that the season dates for the commercial harvest of deep-water groupers in the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico as set out herein have been modified, and that NMFS requests that the season be modified in Louisiana state waters.

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been notified by the National Marine Fisheries Service that the commercial quota for deep-water groupers was projected to be reached on July 15, 2004, and that the Federal season closure is necessary to ensure that the quota for deep-water grouper for 2004 is not exceeded.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33702
(727) 570-5305; FAX (727) 570-5583
<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

(Tang)

JUL 1 2004

F/SER23:PS

Mr. Dwight Landreneau, Secretary
Louisiana Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries
2000 Quail Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000

Dear Mr. Landreneau:

This advises you that the commercial fishery for deep-water grouper (misty, snowy, yellowedge, Warsaw grouper, and speckled hind) in Gulf of Mexico federal waters will close at 12:01 a.m., July 15, 2004, when the commercial quota of 1.02 million pounds is projected to be caught.

NOAA Fisheries requests that Louisiana implement compatible regulations in state waters.

Sincerely yours,

Roy E. Crabtree Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

cc: K. Foote, LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
F/SF, F/SEC, GCSE



RESOLUTION
2004 Fall Shrimp Season - Zones 1 and 3
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
August 5, 2004

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each calendar year for all inside waters by zone, and

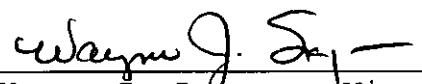
WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides that shrimp season openings shall be based on biological and technical data which indicate that marketable shrimp, in sufficient quantities, are available for harvest, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:498 provides that the minimum legal possession count on saltwater white shrimp shall average no more than 100 whole specimens to the pound (100 count per pound), except during the time period from October fifteenth through the third Monday in December when there shall be no possession count, and

WHEREAS, historical and current biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has indicated that white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 3 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the second week of August and white shrimp in Shrimp Management Zone 1 will average 100 count per pound minimum legal size or larger by the third week of August, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, a Declaration of Emergency setting the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in the inside waters of Zones 1 and 3 is attached to and made a part of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Commission grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the closing dates if biological or technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems develop and to close and reopen all or parts of state inside and outside waters if significant numbers of small white shrimp are found in these waters.



Wayne J. Sagrera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004 Fall Shrimp Season - Zones 1 and 3

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all or parts of state inside waters and shall have the authority to open or close state outside waters, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in inside waters to open as follows:

Shrimp Management Zone 1, that portion of Louisiana inside waters from the Mississippi-Louisiana state line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, to open at official sunrise August 16, 2004, and

Shrimp Management Zone 3, that portion of state inside waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana-Texas state line, to open at official sunrise August 9, 2004.

The Commission also hereby sets the closing date for the 2004 Fall Shrimp Season in inside waters in Zone 1 and Zone 3 at

official sunset December 21, 2004 except in the open waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds as described in the menhaden rule (LAC 76:VII.307D) which shall remain open until 6:00 a.m., March 31, 2005. The Commission also grants authority to the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to change the closing dates if biological and technical data indicate the need to do so or if enforcement problems develop and to close and reopen all or parts of state inside and outside waters if significant numbers of small white shrimp are found in these waters.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2004						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 27, 2004

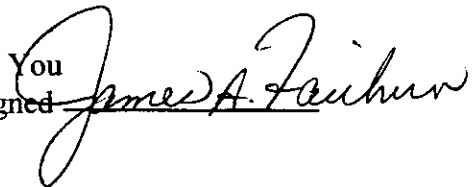
To Wildlife and Fishers commission. ATTN: Dr. Jerry Stone, Mr. Bill Busbice, Mr. Terry Denmon, Mr. Wayne Sagrera, Mr. Henry Moriton, Mr. Earl King, Mr. Robert Samanie, and David Morceland.

I would like it to be known that I am against the DMAP rule being condersated by the commission that would allow limited taking of anterless deer, mostly does on DMAP lands that would not count against their season's bag limit.

I am one of the people that believe the land and water animals belong to the state and the people in the state and not to any individual land owner.

I would ask that the commission treat non DMAP hunting clubs the same way they trust DMAP clubs, six deer per person, per season.

Thank You
Signed

James A. Fairburn

WILBERT J. SAUCIER, JR., INC.

A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORPORATION

826 MAIN STREET

PINEVILLE, LOUISIANA 71360

WILBERT J. SAUCIER, JR.

TELEPHONE (318) 473-4146

FAX (318) 473-2003

July 19, 2004

Dwight Landreneau, Secretary
Department of Wildlife & Fisheries
1995 Shreveport Highway
Pineville, LA 71360

Re: Changes to DMAP and LADT

Dear Secretary Landreneau:

I met you recently at an Operation Game Thief meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana shortly after you had taken office. I am serving this year as president of Operation Game Thief and have been involved in that organization for some five years. I own Erris Omega Plantation which is approximately 1,800 to 2,000 acres of hardwood lands, and am very much involved in wildlife conservation and wildlife management. I write this letter to express my sheer frustration, not necessarily with your department altogether, but with the entire wildlife situation here in Louisiana.

I am aware that the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries this year went into the legislative session in order to establish a tagging system to keep up with the correct number of deer harvested, as well as a reduced legal kill of the buck deer throughout the state. It is my understanding that when the legislative session was over and all the dust settled, what we have is no tagging system, no limitation on bucks, six deer of any kind, absolutely no way to keep up with the number of kills, and an extended hunting season with more days to kill more deer. I think this is absurd.

No where but in Louisiana could this sort of thing go on. Now I have received from Wildlife and Fisheries correspondence with a section captioned "Primary Changes to LADT" which I understand to be the Landowner Antlerless Deer Tag Program" where doe tags will be issued to people having as little as forty acres of land. I do not know who dreamed of this idea, but this is another travesty for Louisiana. With the mentality of the Louisiana hunter, (Remember those who fought for an extended deer season with no limit on the deer.) giving these people doe tags when they have as little as forty acres of land which is under the guise of management, flies in the face of common sense. This is another system which will simply lend to the further abuse of our deer herd just as the extended season with no tagging system and no restriction on buck deer. I can assure you that the people who maintain the small tracts of land are usually adjacent to the large tracts drawing the deer from the larger tracts will not abide by the restrictions once these tags are used. (They cannot shoot either sex on either sex days.) To the contrary, I have always supported the DMAP program namely because it has been limited to tracts of land with 500 or more acres and does maintain an accountability schedule involving the aging of deer along with antler measurements,

Dwight Landreneau
Page 2
July 19, 2004

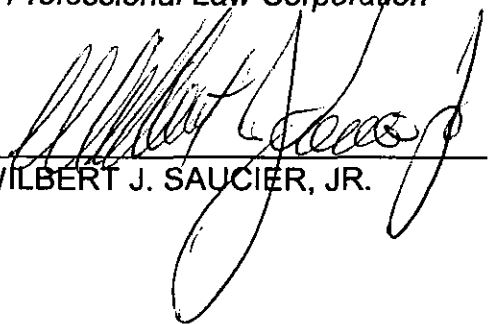
presence of milk, weight and sex.

I urge you and the Department to reconsider the LADT provision and to move for legislation doing away with that program. I welcome any questions or comments that you may have. While it may sound like I am just another Louisiana citizen who is aggravated as hell with the lack of management that we seem to have in this state when our surrounding states seem to do a much better job, that assessment is correct. I am, however, I am committed to working to the betterment of the game laws in this state and would urge the department to continue to push for a tagging system as well as a restriction on buck deer both as to number and size.

With best regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Wilbert J. Saucier, Jr., Inc.
A Professional Law Corporation



WILBERT J. SAUCIER, JR.

WJSjr/dc
cc: Bill Busbice, Jr.
Terry Denmon
Lee Felterman
Thomas Kelly
Henry Mouton
WayneSagrera
Dr. Jerry Stone
Keith LaCaze

July 27, 2004

To Wildlife and Fishers commission. ATTN: Dr. Jerry Stone, Mr. Bill Busbice, Mr. Terry Denmon, Mr. Wayne Sagrera, Mr. Henry Moriton, Mr. Earl King, Mr. Robert Samanie, and David Morcland.

I would like it to be known that I am against the DMAP rule being condersated by the commission that would allow limited taking of anterless deer, mostly does on DMAP lands that would not count against their season's bag limit.

I am one of the people that believe the land and water animals belong to the state and the people in the state and not to any individual land owner.

I would ask that the commission treat non DMAP hunting clubs the same way they trust DMAP clubs, six deer per person, per season.

Thank You
Signed Royce Soler

July 27, 2004

To Wildlife and Fishers commission. ATTN: Dr. Jerry Stone, Mr. Bill Busbice, Mr. Terry Denmon, Mr. Wayne Sagrera, Mr. Henry Moriton, Mr. Earl King, Mr. Robert Samanie, and David Morcland.

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Thank You
Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Samanie", written over a horizontal line.

July 27, 2004

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Thank You
Signed



RECEIVED

1 JUL 29 2004

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 27, 2004

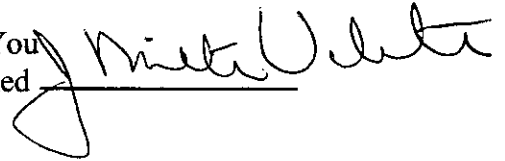
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Thank You
Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike White", written over a horizontal line.

July 27, 2004

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I would ask that the commission treat non DMAP hunting clubs the same way they trust DMAP clubs, six deer per person, per season.

Thank You
Signed Daniel Nawadny
PH 225-775-5893

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION TO AMEND THE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED
RULE – adopted at the July meeting - setting the Area 6 deer season dates, specifically
to adopt the dates included in the Declaration of Emergency.

Second.

CHAIR STATES THE QUESTION: “It has been moved and seconded that the
previously adopted rule be amended to adopt the dates in the Declaration of Emergency
before us. Is there any discussion?”

Mover states reason for Motion.

Discussion among Commission members.

Public comment.

Vote. (4.)

CHAIR: “The motion is finally passed.”

*Evidence based
statistically valid data*

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:953B and 967D(1) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115 and 116, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule:

As a result of public comments and staff recommendations, this Commission hereby adopts the following dates for the Area 6 deer hunting season, which dates reflect the original recommendations of Department staff.

Modern Firearms Still Hunt - November 20 - December 5

Muzzleloader - December 6-10

This action must be taken by Declaration of Emergency since the Commission's season date rule has already been submitted to the legislative leadership and the state register, and insufficient time remains to make these changes via standard rulemaking prior to the opening dates of these seasons.

This provision supercedes the corresponding provision contained in LAC 76:XIX.103 which was promulgated as a rule and published in the July 20, 2004 State Register.

Wayne J. Sagrera

Vice-Chairman

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION TO AMEND THE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED RESOLUTION – adopted at the July 1 meeting - recommending the dove season dates, specifically by adopting the dates attached to the Resolution.

quail meeting dates

Second.

CHAIR STATES THE QUESTION: "It has been moved and seconded that the previously adopted resolution be amended to adopt the dates in the Resolution before us. Is there any discussion?"

Mover states reason for Motion.

Discussion among Commission members.

Public comment.

Vote. (4)

CHAIR: "The motion is finally passed."

*North early / Sept
NO comment — public
Don't seem to matter*

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
August 5, 2004

The following was adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular Commission meeting in Baton Rouge, LA August 5, 2004.

WHEREAS, public hearings in Washington, D.C. have been held on early migratory bird season regulations that include dove, snipe, rail, gallinule, woodcock and teal, and

WHEREAS, rules and regulations governing early migratory bird season frameworks have been developed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and

WHEREAS, the results of this meeting have been discussed with the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries staff has presented recommendations for migratory species that include season dates, bag limits, and shooting hours, and

WHEREAS, it is the statutory responsibility of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to establish hunting seasons for these migratory species within constraints established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service framework, and

WHEREAS, this Commission adopted tentative season dates for early migratory birds at the July 1, 2004 Commission meeting, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Commission to modify that portion of the season selection relative to doves. This is based upon historical season selection including: (1) a 9-day segment for September that was developed as a compromise for the 70-day seasons when zoning was no longer selected, (2) an early October opening for the 2nd split, (3) a tradition of an ending season date usually January 6th or later, and (4) subsequent public comments,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Commission does hereby modify its July 1, 2004 resolution to adopt those tentative season dates and times for doves which are attached to and made part of this resolution, subject to the following stipulations:

- (1) The Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to take any and all steps necessary on behalf of the Commission to promulgate and effectuate these seasons, including promulgation as a Declaration of Emergency and preparation and transmission of reports and correspondence to other agencies of government; and
- (2) If significant changes occur as a result of changes in the framework established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or for other reasons, the Secretary is hereby authorized and delegated the authority to alter the attached seasons based upon the recommendations of Department staff, supported by biological and technical data; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Secretary Dwight Landreneau is hereby directed to compile a single document containing all tentative season dates for early season migratory birds as modified by this resolution.

Wayne J. Sagerera, Vice-Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

2004-05 Mourning Doves Hunting Season Dates and Times

Statewide, Split Season, 70-day/12-bird aggregate daily bag and 24-bird aggregate possession

<i>Start Date</i>	<i>End Date</i>	<i>Days</i>
September 4 (Sat.)	September 12 (Sun.)	9 days
October 9 (Sat.)	November 14 (Sun.)	37 days
December 18 (Sat.)	January 10 (Mon.)	24 days

Eurasian Collared-Doves and Ringed Turtle-Doves--Eurasian collared-doves and ringed turtle-doves may only be hunted or taken during the open mourning dove season. There is no bag limit on Eurasian collared-doves or ringed turtle-doves provided that a fully feathered wing and head remain attached to the carcass of the bird. Fully dressed Eurasian-collared doves and ringed turtle-doves (those without a fully feathered wing and head naturally attached to the carcass) shall be included in the daily bag limit for mourning doves.

Shooting Hours: **Mourning Dove:** One-half hour before sunrise to sunset except on September 4&5, October 9&10, and December 18&19 when shooting hours will be 12:00 noon to sunset.

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LA
August 5, 2004
10:00 AM

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of July 1, 2004
- ✓ 3. Commission Special Announcements - Introduction of New Members
- ✓ 4. Notice of Intent - Set Permanent Opening Date for Wild Alligator Season - Noel Kinler
- ✓ 5. Tentative Dates for the Waterfowl and Other Migratory Bird Seasons - Robert Helm
- 10:47 — ✓ 6. Resolution - Dove Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
- ✓ 7. Declaration of Emergency - Dove Season Dates on Elbow Slough and Sandy Hollow WMAs - Brandt Savoie
- ✓ 8. Discussion of Size Limits on Bass in Atchafalaya River Basin - Henry Mouton
- ✓ 9. Discussion and Review of the Hunting Regulations Process - Henry Mouton
- ✓ 10. Presentation on the Aquaculture Bill - Henry Mouton
- ✓ 11. Enforcement & Aviation Reports/July - Keith LaCaze
- ✓ 12. Declaration of Emergency - Area 6 Deer Season Dates - Brandt Savoie
13. Declaration of Emergency - Amend Youth Hunting Dates in Area 6 - Brandt Savoie
14. DMAP & LADT Public Comments
15. Notice of Intent - 2005 Turkey Season - Fred Kimmel
16. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004-05 Oyster Season on Public Grounds, Seed Reservations and Tonging Areas - Patrick Banks
17. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - Deep Water Grouper Commercial Season Closure - Harry Blanchet

18. Resolution and Declaration of Emergency - 2004 Fall
Inshore Shrimp Season - Marty Bourgeois

19. Set December 2004 Meeting Date

20. Public Comments

21. Adjournment

W) Nov 13 - Dec 5 23d
Dec 18 - Jan 23 6 ducks

E) Nov 20 - Dec 5
Dec 18 - Jan 30

Pintail
W) Nov 13 - Nov 22 9d
Dec 18 - Jan 7

CB
Dec 18 - Jan 16

E) Nov 20 - Nov 28
Dec 18 - Jan 7

Dec 18 - Jan 16

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR SALE GOODS	NO. CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN	PERCENT DOLLARS PAID	PERCENT CASES PAID
FISCAL YEAR 1993-94								
July, 1993	25	\$21,039.00	(\$9,778.00)	29	\$4,855.00	\$2,545.00		
Aug., 1993	53	\$44,922.00	(\$1,137.00)	41	\$7,950.00	\$3,603.00		
Sept., 1993	42	\$137,635.00	(\$17,938.00)	35	\$6,783.00	\$3,048.00		
Oct., 1993	49	\$21,471.00	(\$11,282.00)	40	\$3,285.00	\$1,519.00		
Nov., 1993	57	\$31,207.00	(\$13,260.00)	32	\$3,053.00	\$2,845.00		
Dec., 1993	53	\$13,777.00		27	\$6,507.00	\$6,713.00		
Jan., 1994	38	\$18,918.00		32	\$4,423.00	\$2,831.00		
Feb., 1994	68	\$38,131.00	(\$8,238.00)	46	\$9,124.00	\$5,993.00		
Mar., 1994	38	\$22,739.00	(\$2,482.00)	51	\$10,854.00	\$6,796.00		
April, 1994	14	\$44,732.00	(\$1,404.00)	27	\$7,307.00	\$4,632.00		
May, 1994	10	\$4,504.00	(\$165.00)	7	\$5,447.00	\$3,808.00		
June, 1994	29	\$26,167.00	(\$2,986.00)	12	\$1,886.00	\$1,214.00		
Total FY 1994	476	\$425,242.00	(\$68,670.00)	379	\$71,474.00	\$45,547.00	27.5%	79.6%
FISCAL YEAR 1994-95								
July, 1994	17	\$2,127.00	(\$335.00)	23	\$2,101.00	\$1,437.00		
Aug., 1994	41	\$96,403.00	(\$3,035.00)	20	\$1,010.00	\$605.00		
Sept., 1994	34	\$14,614.00	(\$14,002.00)	26	\$2,596.00	\$2,342.00		
Oct., 1994	94	\$17,426.00	(\$8,677.00)	38	\$2,922.00	\$3,179.00		
Nov., 1994	43	\$103,592.00		45	\$3,992.00	\$2,803.00		
Dec., 1994	68	\$31,400.00		35	\$4,315.00	\$2,329.00		
Jan., 1995	55	\$27,601.00		52	\$7,493.00	\$4,921.00		
Feb., 1995	70	\$61,119.00		41	\$6,472.00	\$3,973.00		
Mar., 1995	31	\$25,072.00		44	\$8,315.00	\$4,737.00		
Apr., 1995	13	\$15,353.00		16	\$3,565.00	\$1,538.00		
May., 1995	23	\$11,632.00		16	\$4,315.00	\$654.00		
June 1995	45	\$31,008.00		18	\$2,630.00	\$1,025.00		
Total FY 1995	534	\$437,347.00	(\$26,049.00)	374	\$49,726.00	\$29,543.00	18.1%	70.0%
FISCAL YEAR 1995-96								
July, 1995	0	\$0.00						
Aug., 1995	46	\$17,425.00		27	\$9,028.00	\$1,729.00		
Sept., 1995	1	\$125.00		21	\$3,093.00	\$2,049.00		
Oct., 1995	122	\$206,244.00		29	\$2,720.00	\$1,161.00		
Nov., 1995	55	\$23,124.00		62	\$10,151.00	\$6,383.00		
Dec., 1995	50	\$18,607.26		32	\$4,780.66	\$2,802.76		
Jan., 1996	49	\$13,814.88	(\$15,296.45)	36	\$5,296.51	\$3,472.89		
Feb., 1996	50	\$14,716.97		38	\$5,777.53	\$3,416.91		
Mar., 1996	33	\$24,936.91		36	\$6,035.12	\$3,421.75		
Apr., 1996	30	\$11,006.66		36	\$7,173.12	\$2,711.54		
May., 1996	23	\$7,989.34		24	\$3,941.69	\$2,020.29		
June 1996	50	\$22,151.31		16	\$2,790.02	\$1,182.23		
Total FY 1996	509	\$360,141.33	(\$15,296.45)	357	\$60,786.65	\$30,350.37	25.3%	70.1%
FISCAL YEAR 1996-97								
July, 1996	40	\$71,894.13		32	\$5,249.93	\$2,947.96		
Aug., 1996	32	\$5,362.64		32	\$6,254.59	\$3,783.69		
Sept., 1996	41	\$7,210.00		29	\$2,259.96	\$1,326.58		
Oct., 1996	29	\$11,092.53		25	\$3,697.89	\$2,261.98		
Nov., 1996	20	\$10,009.10		22	\$1,624.63	\$698.02		
Dec., 1996	13	\$238,466.04		22	\$5,877.18	\$2,121.53		
Jan., 1997	27	\$11,755.22		17	\$4,393.30	\$2,377.09		
Feb., 1997	47	\$18,520.87		42	\$8,579.84	\$5,552.63		
Mar., 1997	26	\$13,434.02		27	\$4,999.59	\$2,757.67		
Apr., 1997	10	\$2,908.87		15	\$2,322.88	\$1,298.66		
May., 1997	20	\$11,682.70		15	\$5,198.91	\$1,399.21		
June 1997	5	\$8,036.58		10	\$2,335.24	\$765.34		
Total FY 1997	310	\$410,372.70	\$0.00	288	\$52,793.94	\$27,290.36	19.5%	92.9%
FISCAL YEAR 1997 - 98								
July, 1997	10	\$2,811.71		8	\$1,584.67	\$823.11		
Aug., 1997	14	\$8,741.30		8	\$1,496.49	\$779.14		
Sept., 1997	29	\$19,926.37		12	\$2,051.78	\$1,278.04		
Oct., 1997	12	\$4,716.81		23	\$3,184.83	\$2,063.89		
Nov., 1997	23	\$54,965.34		10	\$2,424.86	\$1,218.28		
Dec., 1997	25	\$36,881.09		15	\$4,376.97	\$2,775.66		

Susan's

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

Jan., 1998	42	\$30,025.81		17	\$5,300.40	\$3,533.66		
Feb., 1998	37	\$31,164.95		29	\$22,961.69	\$8,501.18		
Mar., 1998	9	\$13,273.45		32	\$9,406.56	\$4,371.53		
Apr., 1998	10	\$5,628.21		10	\$2,602.62	\$1,279.77		
May., 1998	0	\$225.00		8	\$2,885.02	\$950.46		
June 1998	5	\$2,414.03		6	\$1,041.54	\$98.00		

Total FY 1998	216	\$210,774.07	\$0.00	178	\$59,317.43	\$27,672.72	41.3%	82.4%
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FICAL YEAR 1998 - 99

July, 1998	9	\$1,390.43		8	\$1,964.20	\$716.75		
Aug., 1998	10	\$2,240.70		10	\$1,048.28	\$372.47		
Sept., 1998	8	\$2,768.96		11	\$2,000.36	\$1,148.23		
Oct., 1998	22	\$28,704.85		14	\$1,860.17	\$807.48		
Nov., 1998	19	\$9,137.79		11	\$1,765.97	\$1,092.43		
Dec., 1998	23	\$11,959.10		27	\$4,441.02	\$2,040.71		
Jan., 1999	41	\$21,179.55		18	\$6,621.63	\$3,838.22		
Feb., 1999	45	\$26,236.24		41	\$12,119.09	\$6,923.61		
Mar., 1999	15	\$7,549.57		33	\$8,281.77	\$4,138.44		
Apr., 1999	9	\$8,013.54		14	\$3,035.82	\$1,388.41		
May., 1999	5	\$5,161.23		5	\$905.50	\$405.00		
June 1999	7	\$3,719.01		13	\$3,011.06	\$533.83		

Total FY 1999	213	\$128,060.97	\$0.00	205	\$47,054.87	\$23,405.58	55.0%	96.2%
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FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

July, 1999	5	\$1,556.38		9	\$2,287.53	\$1,198.81		
Aug., 1999	10	\$2,510.83		15	\$2,455.38	\$513.73		
Sept., 1999	6	\$2,032.19	\$5,324.80	28	\$3,563.06	\$475.93		
Oct., 1999	11	\$4,452.31	\$567.75	25	\$2,775.48	\$557.41		
Nov., 1999	14	\$8,634.64		26	\$3,250.96	\$1,322.96		
Dec., 1999	24	\$15,891.96		19	\$3,862.76	\$2,126.27		
Jan., 2000	49	\$27,872.14		28	\$7,952.94	\$3,814.02		
Feb., 2000	21	\$11,039.59		30	\$10,159.24	\$6,216.42		
Mar., 2000	19	\$9,873.21		31	\$6,709.07	\$3,555.40		
Apr., 2000	12	\$7,897.70		17	\$2,932.41	\$1,512.54		
May, 2000	7	\$5,039.46	\$293.60	20	\$7,062.23	\$3,164.00		
June, 2000	16	\$14,566.88		18	\$5,766.59	\$1,852.12		

Total FY 2000	194	\$111,367.29	\$6,186.15	266	\$58,777.65	\$26,309.61	76%	137%
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FISCAL YEAR 2000-01

July, 2000	2	\$865.01		14	\$1,948.03	\$154.01		
Aug., 2000	20	\$15,837.60		17	\$3,302.27	\$1,063.92		
Sept., 2000	12	\$3,562.26		23	\$8,718.21	\$1,351.41		
Oct., 2000	18	\$122,696.24		29	\$7,457.98	\$490.16		
Nov. 2000	13	\$15,851.30		22	\$4,038.50	\$309.30		
Dec., 2000	40	\$30,234.92		24	\$7,189.98	\$462.13		
Jan., 2001	28	\$15,923.38		25	\$7,611.66	\$833.60		
Feb., 2001	35	\$20,181.39		30	\$18,568.12	\$1,917.82		
Mar., 2001	8	\$5,956.83		37	\$15,724.02	\$753.86		
Apr., 2001	20	\$24,145.82		22	\$4,856.39	\$225.93		
May 2001	4	\$1,677.36		20	\$3,700.77	\$313.58		
June 2001	3	\$932.20		31	\$8,433.81	\$346.90		

Total FY 2001	203	\$257,864.31	\$0.00	294	\$91,549.74	\$8,222.62	39%	145%
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FISCAL YEAR 2001-02

July, 2001	4	\$4,290.29		25	\$6,328.36	\$293.54		
Aug., 2001	6	\$9,452.69		18	\$2,984.52			
Sept., 2001	0	\$175.00		25	\$4,157.32	\$66.29		
Oct., 2001	15	\$6,439.06		18	\$3,174.66	\$67.32		
Nov., 2001	15	\$5,913.63		24	\$3,932.41	\$194.66		
Dec., 2001	36	\$21,868.88		20	\$5,384.19	\$502.17		
Jan., 2002	56	\$27,650.44		38	\$11,100.99	\$1,008.09		
Feb., 2002	27	\$14,211.31	\$620.55	37	\$20,017.87	\$861.63		
Mar., 2002	8	\$6,765.68		36	\$10,061.89	\$419.16		
Apr., 2002	20	\$11,296.19		19	\$2,196.02	\$49.33		
May, 2002	3	\$30,852.57	\$11,887.80	27	\$8,265.67	\$538.72		
June, 2002	3	\$8,636.08		23	\$3,418.15	\$87.91		

Total FY 2002	193	\$147,551.82	\$12,508.35	310	\$81,022.05	\$4,088.82	58%	161%
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MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2002-03

July, 2002	8	\$6,915.26	20	\$3,308.14	\$111.90
Aug., 2002	12	\$11,943.66	24	\$4,010.98	\$47.33
Sept., 2002	6	\$1,944.83	19	\$4,624.36	\$85.25
Oct., 2002	24	\$12,167.99	25	\$7,131.20	\$442.95
Nov., 2002	21	\$11,013.41	27	\$8,688.51	\$624.99
Dec., 2002	32	\$15,763.99	23	\$7,660.18	\$689.95
Jan., 2003	58	\$32,391.55	22	\$7,149.09	\$562.34
Feb., 2003	33	\$18,426.48	40	\$13,988.00	\$1,122.57
Mar., 2003	13	\$3,668.17	28	\$9,342.76	\$643.57
Apr., 2003	16	\$5,661.77	23	\$3,004.29	\$269.02
May, 2003	11	\$5,801.24	20	\$5,252.90	\$293.69
June, 2003	11	\$6,700.71	24	\$6,907.49	\$224.85

Total FY 2003	245	\$132,399.06	\$0.00	\$295.00	\$81,067.90	\$5,118.41	65%	120%
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FISCAL YEAR 2003-04

July, 2003	7	\$1,742.90	17	\$3,502.99	\$30.27
Aug., 2003	13	\$5,254.98	16	\$3,131.76	\$126.78
Sept., 2003	13	\$15,161.55	17	\$3,797.61	\$285.74
Oct., 2003	14	\$14,153.21	24	\$6,084.13	\$188.45
Nov., 2003	17	\$7,594.12	18	\$4,500.13	\$245.00
Dec., 2003	45	\$22,244.61	23	\$8,965.74	\$702.59
Jan., 2004	32	\$17,609.03	22	\$7,016.24	\$685.11
Feb., 2004	19	\$10,856.76	38	\$14,262.81	\$1,133.21
Mar., 2004	17	\$14,927.35	32	\$11,840.30	\$647.13
Apr., 2004	15	\$7,481.48	19	\$4,666.57	\$284.61
May, 2004	13	\$4,300.96	19	\$3,608.61	\$228.47
June, 2004	4	\$31,164.87	24	\$6,629.45	\$249.47

Total FY 2004	209	\$152,491.82	\$0.00	269	\$78,006.34	\$4,806.83	54%	129%
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FISCAL YEAR 2004-05

July, 2004	3	\$29,750.20	13	\$1,343.60	\$62.86
Aug., 2004					
Sept., 2004					
Oct., 2004					
Nov., 2004					
Dec., 2004					
Jan., 2004					
Feb., 2004					
Mar., 2004					
Apr., 2004					
May, 2004					
June, 2004					

Total FY 2005	3	29,750	0	13	1,344	63	5%	433%
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
CURRENT MONTH
07/01/2004 TO 07/31/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	3	\$29,750.20
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	0	\$0.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	3	\$29,750.20
PAYMENTS	8	\$1,088.60-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$50.00-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	3	\$180.00-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	0	\$0.00
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	1	\$25.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	1	\$62.86-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$0.01
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	0	\$0.00
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	0	\$0.00

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
07/01/2004 TO 07/31/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	3	\$29,750.20
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	0	\$0.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	3	\$29,750.20
PAYMENTS	8	\$1,088.60-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$50.00-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	3	\$180.00-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	0	\$0.00
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	1	\$25.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	1	\$62.86-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$0.01
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	0	\$0.00
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	0	\$0.00
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	0	\$0.00

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
INCEPTION TO DATE
07/31/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	4,847	\$3,413,479.62
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	470	\$12,300.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	331	\$269,865.45-
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	138	\$58,209.82
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	4,847	\$3,214,123.99
PAYMENTS	3,312	\$763,034.57-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	37	\$8,903.30-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	87	\$35,013.17-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	38	\$27,311.17-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	238	\$6,175.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	2,307	\$266,271.34-
OVERPAYMENTS	145	\$359.45
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	74	\$12,888.01
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	17	\$44,255.65-
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	5	\$6,780.54
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	8	\$45,896.70
RETURNED CHECKS	1	\$61.75
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	3	\$55.00
CREDITS	13	\$10.22-
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	21	\$6,881.15
CREDITS	67	\$39,145.73-
WRITE-OFFS	1,059	\$1,480,797.23-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	9	\$4,717.56-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	40	\$21,082.19-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	96	\$200,277.90-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	1	\$2,134.47-
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	2	\$559.32-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	1	\$524.54-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$8,156.58-
=====		
** TOTAL OUTSTANDING	288	\$378,676.65

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	39	\$108,008.20 *
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AGING OF SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODITIES

VIOLATION DATE UNKNOWN	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	1	\$59.25
31 - 60 DAYS	10	\$578.90
61 - 90 DAYS	9	\$15,758.55
91 - 120 DAYS	6	\$6,272.85
121 - 150 DAYS	3	\$540.85
151 - 180 DAYS	8	\$3,071.90
181 - 365 DAYS	38	\$47,444.09
OVER ONE YEAR	59	\$36,328.15
OVER TWO YEARS	70	\$75,327.12
OVER THREE YEARS	1,050	\$749,254.52

** TOTAL AGING	1,254	\$934,636.18
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CAN NOT BE INVOICED	0	\$0.00
CURRENT	3	\$29,750.20
1 - 30 DAYS	3	\$1,555.51
31 - 90 DAYS	10	\$4,364.83
91 - 180 DAYS	26	\$23,056.69
181 - 365 DAYS	30	\$28,771.59
OVER ONE YEAR	126	\$119,040.37

COLLECTIONS WITH PRIVATE COLLECTIONS FIRM:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	85	\$83,627.36

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	5	\$88,510.10

** TOTAL AGING	288	\$378,676.65
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

PAGE: 1

CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

DATE: 08/02/2004

CURRENT MONTH

07/01/2004-07/31/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	4	\$250.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	104	\$2,750.00
CREDITS	1	\$25.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	95	\$803.00
CREDITS	1	\$7.50-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$3,770.50

=====

PAID IN FULL	543	\$32,615.00-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	12	\$620.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	11	\$617.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	11	\$52.00-
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$0.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$1.00
REFUNDS	7	\$289.50
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	2	\$100.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
VOIDS	2	\$100.00-
NOT GUILTY	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$50.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
07/01/2004-07/31/2004PAGE: 2
DATE: 08/02/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	4	\$250.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	104	\$2,750.00
CREDITS	1	\$25.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	95	\$803.00
CREDITS	1	\$7.50-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$3,770.50

=====

PAID IN FULL	543	\$32,615.00-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	12	\$620.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	11	\$617.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	11	\$52.00-
WRITE-OFFS	1	\$0.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$1.00
REFUNDS	7	\$289.50
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	2	\$100.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
VOIDS	2	\$100.00-
NOT GUILTY	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$50.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
INCEPTION TO DATE
07/31/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	115,417	\$5,961,732.07
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	33,629	\$852,296.30
CREDITS	2	\$11,641.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	1,987	\$16,060.75
CREDITS	1	\$7.50-
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$6,818,440.62

=====

PAID IN FULL	70,902	\$3,825,347.82-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1,803	\$85,613.75-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	14	\$690.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	33	\$345.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	375	\$22,878.53-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	335	\$1,384.00-
WRITE-OFFS	11,984	\$696,871.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	197	\$4,289.86
REFUNDS	427	\$18,699.31
RETURNED CHECKS	78	\$4,125.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	75	\$1,215.00
CREDITS	170	\$141.88-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	258	\$15,150.00
CREDITS	46	\$2,600.00-
VOIDS	5,777	\$291,200.00-
NOT GUILTY	1,306	\$66,450.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	271	\$14,250.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	13	\$650.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	159	\$8,000.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL OUTSTANDING		\$1,845,497.31

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM CITATION DATE

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CURRENT	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	344	\$19,455.00
31 - 90 DAYS	896	\$54,790.00
91 - 180 DAYS	648	\$48,350.00
181 - 365 DAYS	1,183	\$99,763.00
OVER ONE YEAR	19,610	\$1,450,622.34

COLLECTIONS WITH DEPT OF REVENUE:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	2,209	\$172,291.97

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	3	\$225.00

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** TOTAL AGING	24,893	\$1,845,497.31
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM HEARING DATE

PREHEARING	781	\$43,355.00
0 - 90 DAYS	1,062	\$74,495.00
91 - 180 DAYS	553	\$46,475.00
181 - 270 DAYS	303	\$26,127.50
271 - 365 DAYS	917	\$76,535.50
OVER ONE YEAR	21,277	\$1,578,509.31

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** TOTAL AGING	24,893	\$1,845,497.31
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MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

PERIOD	NO. CASES ASSESSED	AMOUNT ASSESSED	CREDIT FOR SALE GOODS	NO. CASES PAID	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNTS TAKEN	PERCENT DOLLARS PAID	PERCENT CASES PAID
FISCAL YEAR 1993-94								
July, 1993	25	\$21,039.00	(\$9,778.00)	29	\$4,855.00	\$2,545.00		
Aug., 1993	53	\$44,922.00	(\$1,137.00)	41	\$7,950.00	\$3,603.00		
Sept., 1993	42	\$137,635.00	(\$17,938.00)	35	\$8,783.00	\$3,048.00		
Oct., 1993	49	\$21,471.00	(\$11,282.00)	40	\$3,285.00	\$1,519.00		
Nov., 1993	57	\$31,207.00	(\$13,260.00)	32	\$3,053.00	\$2,845.00		
Dec., 1993	53	\$13,777.00		27	\$6,507.00	\$6,713.00		
Jan., 1994	38	\$18,918.00		32	\$4,423.00	\$2,831.00		
Feb., 1994	68	\$38,131.00	(\$8,238.00)	46	\$9,124.00	\$5,993.00		
Mar., 1994	38	\$22,739.00	(\$2,482.00)	51	\$10,854.00	\$6,796.00		
April, 1994	14	\$44,732.00	(\$1,404.00)	27	\$7,307.00	\$4,632.00		
May, 1994	10	\$4,504.00	(\$165.00)	7	\$5,447.00	\$3,808.00		
June, 1994	29	\$26,167.00	(\$2,986.00)	12	\$1,886.00	\$1,214.00		
Total FY 1994	476	\$425,242.00	(\$68,670.00)	379	\$71,474.00	\$45,547.00	27.5%	79.6%
FISCAL YEAR 1994-95								
July, 1994	17	\$2,127.00	(\$335.00)	23	\$2,101.00	\$1,437.00		
Aug., 1994	41	\$96,403.00	(\$3,035.00)	20	\$1,010.00	\$605.00		
Sept., 1994	34	\$14,614.00	(\$14,002.00)	26	\$2,596.00	\$2,342.00		
Oct., 1994	94	\$17,426.00	(\$8,677.00)	38	\$2,922.00	\$3,179.00		
Nov., 1994	43	\$103,592.00		45	\$3,992.00	\$2,803.00		
Dec., 1994	68	\$31,400.00		35	\$4,315.00	\$2,329.00		
Jan., 1995	55	\$27,601.00		52	\$7,493.00	\$4,921.00		
Feb., 1995	70	\$61,119.00		41	\$8,472.00	\$3,973.00		
Mar., 1995	31	\$25,072.00		44	\$8,315.00	\$4,737.00		
Apr., 1995	13	\$15,353.00		16	\$3,565.00	\$1,538.00		
May., 1995	23	\$11,632.00		16	\$4,315.00	\$654.00		
June 1995	45	\$31,008.00		18	\$2,630.00	\$1,025.00		
Total FY 1995	534	\$437,347.00	(\$26,049.00)	374	\$49,726.00	\$29,543.00	18.1%	70.0%
FISCAL YEAR 1995-96								
July, 1995	0	\$0.00						
Aug., 1995	46	\$17,425.00		27	\$9,028.00	\$1,729.00		
Sept., 1995	1	\$125.00		21	\$3,093.00	\$2,049.00		
Oct., 1995	122	\$206,244.00		29	\$2,720.00	\$1,161.00		
Nov., 1995	55	\$23,124.00		62	\$10,151.00	\$6,383.00		
Dec., 1995	50	\$18,607.26		32	\$4,780.66	\$2,802.76		
Jan., 1996	49	\$13,814.88	(\$15,296.45)	36	\$5,296.51	\$3,472.89		
Feb., 1996	50	\$14,716.97		38	\$5,777.53	\$3,416.91		
Mar., 1996	33	\$24,936.91		36	\$6,035.12	\$3,421.75		
Apr., 1996	30	\$11,006.66		36	\$7,173.12	\$2,711.54		
May., 1996	23	\$7,989.34		24	\$3,941.69	\$2,020.29		
June 1996	50	\$22,151.31		16	\$2,790.02	\$1,182.23		
Total FY 1996	509	\$360,141.33	(\$15,296.45)	357	\$60,786.65	\$30,350.37	25.3%	70.1%
FISCAL YEAR 1996-97								
July, 1996	40	\$71,894.13		32	\$5,249.93	\$2,947.96		
Aug., 1996	32	\$5,362.64		32	\$6,254.59	\$3,783.69		
Sept., 1996	41	\$7,210.00		29	\$2,259.96	\$1,326.58		
Oct., 1996	29	\$11,092.53		25	\$3,697.89	\$2,261.98		
Nov., 1996	20	\$10,009.10		22	\$1,624.63	\$698.02		
Dec., 1996	13	\$238,466.04		22	\$5,877.18	\$2,121.53		
Jan., 1997	27	\$11,755.22		17	\$4,393.30	\$2,377.09		
Feb., 1997	47	\$18,520.87		42	\$8,579.84	\$5,552.63		
Mar., 1997	26	\$13,434.02		27	\$4,999.59	\$2,757.67		
Apr., 1997	10	\$2,908.87		15	\$2,322.88	\$1,298.66		
May., 1997	20	\$11,682.70		15	\$5,198.91	\$1,399.21		
June 1997	5	\$8,036.58		10	\$2,335.24	\$765.34		
Total FY 1997	310	\$410,372.70	\$0.00	288	\$52,793.94	\$27,290.36	19.5%	92.9%
FISCAL YEAR 1997 - 98								
July, 1997	10	\$2,811.71		8	\$1,584.67	\$823.11		
Aug., 1997	14	\$8,741.30		8	\$1,496.49	\$779.14		
Sept., 1997	29	\$19,826.37		12	\$2,051.78	\$1,278.04		
Oct., 1997	12	\$4,716.81		23	\$3,184.83	\$2,063.89		
Nov., 1997	23	\$54,965.34		10	\$2,424.86	\$1,218.28		
Dec., 1997	25	\$36,881.09		15	\$4,376.97	\$2,775.66		

MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

Jan., 1998	42	\$30,025.81		17	\$5,300.40	\$3,533.66		
Feb., 1998	37	\$31,164.95		29	\$22,961.69	\$8,501.18		
Mar., 1998	9	\$13,273.45		32	\$9,406.56	\$4,371.53		
Apr., 1998	10	\$5,628.21		10	\$2,602.62	\$1,279.77		
May., 1998	0	\$225.00		8	\$2,885.02	\$950.46		
June 1998	5	\$2,414.03		6	\$1,041.54	\$98.00		

Total FY 1998	216	\$210,774.07	\$0.00	178	\$59,317.43	\$27,672.72	41.3%	82.4%
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FISCAL YEAR 1998 - 99

July, 1998	9	\$1,390.43		8	\$1,964.20	\$716.75		
Aug., 1998	10	\$2,240.70		10	\$1,048.28	\$372.47		
Sept., 1998	8	\$2,768.96		11	\$2,000.36	\$1,148.23		
Oct., 1998	22	\$28,704.85		14	\$1,860.17	\$807.48		
Nov., 1998	19	\$9,137.79		11	\$1,765.97	\$1,092.43		
Dec., 1998	23	\$11,959.10		27	\$4,441.02	\$2,040.71		
Jan., 1999	41	\$21,179.55		18	\$6,621.63	\$3,838.22		
Feb., 1999	45	\$26,236.24		41	\$12,119.09	\$6,923.61		
Mar., 1999	15	\$7,549.57		33	\$8,281.77	\$4,138.44		
Apr., 1999	9	\$8,013.54		14	\$3,035.82	\$1,388.41		
May., 1999	5	\$5,161.23		5	\$905.50	\$405.00		
June 1999	7	\$3,719.01		13	\$3,011.06	\$533.83		

Total FY 1999	213	\$128,060.97	\$0.00	205	\$47,054.87	\$23,405.58	55.0%	96.2%
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FISCAL YEAR 1999-2000

July, 1999	5	\$1,556.38		9	\$2,287.53	\$1,198.81		
Aug., 1999	10	\$2,510.83		15	\$2,455.38	\$513.73		
Sept., 1999	6	\$2,032.19	\$5,324.80	28	\$3,563.06	\$475.93		
Oct., 1999	11	\$4,452.31	\$567.75	25	\$2,775.48	\$557.41		
Nov., 1999	14	\$8,634.64		26	\$3,250.96	\$1,322.96		
Dec., 1999	24	\$15,891.96		19	\$3,862.76	\$2,126.27		
Jan., 2000	49	\$27,872.14		28	\$7,952.94	\$3,814.02		
Feb., 2000	21	\$11,039.59		30	\$10,159.24	\$6,216.42		
Mar., 2000	19	\$9,873.21		31	\$6,709.07	\$3,555.40		
Apr., 2000	12	\$7,897.70		17	\$2,932.41	\$1,512.54		
May, 2000	7	\$5,039.46	\$293.60	20	\$7,062.23	\$3,164.00		
June, 2000	16	\$14,566.88		18	\$5,766.59	\$1,852.12		

Total FY 2000	194	\$111,367.29	\$6,186.15	266	\$58,777.65	\$26,309.61	76%	137%
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FISCAL YEAR 2000-01

July, 2000	2	\$865.01		14	\$1,948.03	\$154.01		
Aug., 2000	20	\$15,837.60		17	\$3,302.27	\$1,063.92		
Sept., 2000	12	\$3,562.26		23	\$8,718.21	\$1,351.41		
Oct., 2000	18	\$122,696.24		29	\$7,457.98	\$490.16		
Nov., 2000	13	\$15,851.30		22	\$4,038.50	\$309.30		
Dec., 2000	40	\$30,234.92		24	\$7,189.98	\$462.13		
Jan., 2001	28	\$15,923.38		25	\$7,611.66	\$833.60		
Feb., 2001	35	\$20,181.39		30	\$18,568.12	\$1,917.82		
Mar., 2001	8	\$5,956.83		37	\$15,724.02	\$753.86		
Apr., 2001	20	\$24,145.82		22	\$4,856.39	\$225.93		
May 2001	4	\$1,677.36		20	\$3,700.77	\$313.58		
June 2001	3	\$932.20		31	\$8,433.81	\$346.90		

Total FY 2001	203	\$257,864.31	\$0.00	294	\$91,549.74	\$8,222.62	39%	145%
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FISCAL YEAR 2001-02

July, 2001	4	\$4,290.29		25	\$6,328.36	\$293.54		
Aug., 2001	6	\$9,452.69		18	\$2,984.52			
Sept., 2001	0	\$175.00		25	\$4,157.32	\$66.29		
Oct., 2001	15	\$6,436.06		18	\$3,174.66	\$67.32		
Nov., 2001	15	\$5,913.63		24	\$3,932.41	\$194.66		
Dec., 2001	38	\$21,868.88		20	\$5,384.19	\$502.17		
Jan., 2002	56	\$27,650.44		38	\$11,100.99	\$1,008.09		
Feb., 2002	27	\$14,211.31	\$620.55	37	\$20,017.87	\$861.63		
Mar., 2002	8	\$6,765.68		36	\$10,061.89	\$419.16		
Apr., 2002	20	\$11,296.19		19	\$2,196.02	\$49.33		
May, 2002	3	\$30,852.57	\$11,887.80	27	\$8,265.67	\$538.72		
June, 2002	3	\$8,636.08		23	\$3,418.15	\$87.91		

Total FY 2002	193	\$147,551.82	\$12,508.35	310	\$81,022.05	\$4,088.82	58%	161%
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MONTHLY CIVIL RESTITUTION REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2002-03

July, 2002	8	\$6,915.26	20	\$3,308.14	\$111.90
Aug., 2002	12	\$11,943.66	24	\$4,010.98	\$47.33
Sept., 2002	6	\$1,944.83	19	\$4,624.36	\$85.25
Oct., 2002	24	\$12,167.99	25	\$7,131.20	\$442.95
Nov., 2002	21	\$11,013.41	27	\$8,688.51	\$624.99
Dec., 2002	32	\$15,763.99	23	\$7,660.18	\$689.95
Jan., 2003	58	\$32,391.55	22	\$7,149.09	\$562.34
Feb., 2003	33	\$18,426.48	40	\$13,988.00	\$1,122.57
Mar., 2003	13	\$3,668.17	28	\$9,342.76	\$643.57
Apr., 2003	16	\$5,661.77	23	\$3,004.29	\$269.02
May, 2003	11	\$5,801.24	20	\$5,252.90	\$293.69
June, 2003	11	\$6,700.71	24	\$6,907.49	\$224.85

Total FY 2003	245	\$132,399.06	\$0.00	\$295.00	\$81,067.90	\$5,118.41	65%	120%
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FISCAL YEAR 2003-04

July, 2003	7	\$1,742.90	17	\$3,502.99	\$30.27
Aug., 2003	13	\$5,254.98	16	\$3,131.76	\$126.78
Sept., 2003	13	\$15,161.55	17	\$3,797.61	\$285.74
Oct., 2003	14	\$14,153.21	24	\$6,084.13	\$188.45
Nov., 2003	17	\$7,594.12	18	\$4,500.13	\$245.00
Dec., 2003	45	\$22,244.61	23	\$8,965.74	\$702.59
Jan., 2004	32	\$17,619.03	22	\$7,016.24	\$685.11
Feb., 2004	19	\$10,856.76	38	\$14,262.81	\$1,133.21
Mar., 2004	17	\$14,927.35	32	\$11,840.30	\$647.13
Apr., 2004	15	\$7,481.48	19	\$4,666.57	\$284.61
May, 2004	13	\$4,300.96	19	\$3,608.61	\$228.47
June, 2004	4	\$31,164.87	24	\$6,629.45	\$249.47

Total FY 2004	209	\$152,491.82	\$0.00	269	\$78,006.34	\$4,806.83	54%	129%
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
CURRENT MONTH
06/01/2004 TO 06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	4	\$31,114.87
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	2	\$50.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	4	\$31,164.87
PAYMENTS	18	\$5,440.19-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$229.26-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	4	\$785.00-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	0	\$0.00
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	7	\$175.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	5	\$249.47-
OVERPAYMENTS	1	\$0.01
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	0	\$0.00
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	0	\$0.00
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	1	\$6.16-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	2	\$29,647.99-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	0	\$0.00

FOOTNOTE:		
FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
07/01/2003 TO 06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	209	\$150,116.82
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	94	\$2,350.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	0	\$0.00
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	209	\$152,466.82
PAYMENTS	188	\$69,638.48-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	2	\$229.26-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	13	\$3,249.35-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	11	\$3,864.95-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	40	\$1,025.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	112	\$4,696.20-
OVERPAYMENTS	16	\$264.23
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	10	\$1,050.15
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	0	\$0.00
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	0	\$0.00
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	0	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	3	\$2,083.83-
WRITE-OFFS	3	\$274.98-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	2	\$2,922.61-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	9	\$7.61-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	5	\$31,221.61-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	0	\$0.00
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$2,118.40-

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	1	\$1,066.50
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CIVIL RESTITUTION ACTIVITY REPORT
INCEPTION TO DATE
06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
ORIG RESTITUTION VALUES ENTERED	4,844	\$3,383,729.42
HEARING COSTS ASSESSED	470	\$12,300.00
SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	331	\$269,865.45-
SALES EXCEEDING RESTITUTION	138	\$58,209.82
=====		
RESTITUTION ASSESSED	4,844	\$3,184,373.79
PAYMENTS	3,313	\$761,945.97-
PAYMENTS AFTER PAST DUE NOTICE	35	\$8,853.30-
PAYMENTS AFTER REVOKED NOTICE	91	\$34,833.17-
PAYMENTS FROM COLLECTION EFFORT	38	\$27,311.17-
PAYMENTS FROM HRG COST ASSESSED	237	\$6,150.00-
DISCOUNTS FOR TIMELY PAYMENTS	2,306	\$266,208.48-
OVERPAYMENTS	144	\$359.44
REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT	74	\$12,888.01
APPLIED CONFISCATED COMMODS	17	\$44,255.65-
APPLIED EXCEEDING BALANCE DUE	5	\$6,780.54
REFUND OF CONFISCATED COMMOD.	8	\$45,896.70
RETURNED CHECKS	1	\$61.75
MISC. ADJUSTMENTS		
DEBITS	3	\$55.00
CREDITS	13	\$10.22-
REASSESSMENTS		
DEBITS	21	\$6,881.15
CREDITS	67	\$39,145.73-
WRITE-OFFS	1,059	\$1,480,797.23-
ASSESSMENTS WITHDRAWN	9	\$4,717.56-
ADJUDICATION ADJUSTMENTS	40	\$21,082.19-
FOUND NOT RESPONSIBLE	96	\$200,277.90-
DISMISSED BY D.A.	1	\$2,134.47-
CASES VOIDED BY ENFORCEMENT	2	\$559.32-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	1	\$524.54-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	1	\$8,156.58-
=====		
** TOTAL OUTSTANDING	286	\$350,332.90

FOOTNOTE:

FORFEIT OF CONFISCATED COMMODS	39	\$108,008.20 *
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AGING OF SALE OF CONFISCATED COMMODITIES

VIOLATION DATE UNKNOWN	0	\$0.00
1 - 30 DAYS	0	\$0.00
31 - 60 DAYS	9	\$20,662.80
61 - 90 DAYS	5	\$1,301.35
91 - 120 DAYS	3	\$540.85
121 - 150 DAYS	8	\$3,071.90
151 - 180 DAYS	2	\$2,029.45
181 - 365 DAYS	46	\$49,501.79
OVER ONE YEAR	54	\$34,097.40
OVER TWO YEARS	79	\$79,824.89
OVER THREE YEARS	1,036	\$742,900.35

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** TOTAL AGING	1,242	\$933,930.78
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CAN NOT BE INVOICED	1	\$1,049.08
CURRENT	2	\$942.34
1 - 30 DAYS	5	\$1,299.09
31 - 90 DAYS	17	\$17,088.47
91 - 180 DAYS	27	\$15,411.73
181 - 365 DAYS	21	\$24,047.52
OVER ONE YEAR	123	\$118,357.21

COLLECTIONS WITH PRIVATE COLLECTIONS FIRM:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	85	\$83,627.36

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	5	\$88,510.10

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** TOTAL AGING	286	\$350,332.90
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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
CURRENT MONTH
06/01/2004-06/30/2004PAGE: 1
DATE: 06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	917	\$51,615.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	1,215	\$31,300.00
CREDITS	2	\$200.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$82,715.00

=====

PAID IN FULL	601	\$36,004.00-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	18	\$878.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	9	\$449.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	8	\$32.00-
WRITE-OFFS	0	\$0.00
OVERPAYMENTS	0	\$0.00
REFUNDS	9	\$228.00
RETURNED CHECKS	0	\$0.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	0	\$0.00
CREDITS	1	\$0.00
VOIDS	15	\$800.00-
NOT GUILTY	2	\$100.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	6	\$300.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	1	\$50.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT

DATE: 06/30/2004

FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

07/01/2003-06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	8,032	\$460,685.00
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	5,574	\$148,058.50
CREDITS	15	\$1,000.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	1,204	\$9,983.25
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$617,726.75

=====

PAID IN FULL	6,453	\$394,630.33-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	177	\$10,025.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	0	\$0.00
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	0	\$0.00
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	342	\$20,593.53-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	302	\$1,228.00-
WRITE-OFFS	35	\$18.50-
OVERPAYMENTS	14	\$107.58
REFUNDS	75	\$2,862.00
RETURNED CHECKS	5	\$300.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	5	\$100.00
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	12	\$700.00
CREDITS	5	\$200.00-
VOIDS	149	\$8,000.00-
NOT GUILTY	96	\$4,950.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	52	\$2,950.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	0	\$0.00
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	2	\$100.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CLASS I ACTIVITY REPORT
INCEPTION TO DATE
06/30/2004

	# CASES	AMOUNT
FINES	115,426	\$5,962,332.07
HEARING COSTS		
DEBITS	33,526	\$849,546.30
CREDITS	16	\$11,616.00-
LATE CHARGES		
DEBITS	1,892	\$15,257.75
CREDITS	0	\$0.00
		=====
TOTAL DUE		\$6,815,520.12

=====

PAID IN FULL	70,370	\$3,792,632.82-
PARTIAL PAYMENTS	1,793	\$84,993.75-
ATTORNEY GENERAL COLLECTIONS	14	\$690.00-
ATTORNEY GENERAL FEES	33	\$345.00-
DEPT OF REVENUE COLLECTIONS	368	\$22,261.53-
DEPT OF REVENUE FEES	328	\$1,332.00-
WRITE-OFFS	11,985	\$697,071.00-
OVERPAYMENTS	196	\$4,288.86
REFUNDS	420	\$18,409.81
RETURNED CHECKS	78	\$4,125.00
MISC CHANGES		
DEBITS	75	\$1,215.00
CREDITS	170	\$141.88-
ADJUSTMENTS TO VIOLATION		
DEBITS	256	\$15,050.00
CREDITS	46	\$2,600.00-
VOIDS	5,775	\$291,100.00-
NOT GUILTY	1,306	\$66,450.00-
DISMISSED BY ADMIN LAW	270	\$14,200.00-
DISMISSED BY ENFORCEMENT	13	\$650.00-
GUILTY/FINE WAIVED	159	\$8,000.00-
OVERTURNED ON APPEAL	0	\$0.00
		=====

TOTAL OUTSTANDING \$1,876,140.81

AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM CITATION DATE

COLLECTIONS WITH AGENCY:

CURRENT	517	\$28,865.00
1 - 30 DAYS	590	\$33,105.00
31 - 90 DAYS	925	\$61,685.00
91 - 180 DAYS	392	\$31,175.00
181 - 365 DAYS	1,366	\$114,040.00
OVER ONE YEAR	19,432	\$1,433,334.84

COLLECTIONS WITH DEPT OF REVENUE:

1 - 90 DAYS	0	\$0.00
91 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	2,229	\$173,710.97

AMOUNT UNDER PROTEST:

1 - 180 DAYS	0	\$0.00
181 - 365 DAYS	0	\$0.00
OVER ONE YEAR	3	\$225.00

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** TOTAL AGING	25,454	\$1,876,140.81
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AGING OF OUTSTANDING CASES FROM HEARING DATE

PREHEARING	1,868	\$108,410.00
0 - 90 DAYS	432	\$34,050.00
91 - 180 DAYS	563	\$47,225.00
181 - 270 DAYS	1,232	\$103,135.00
271 - 365 DAYS	452	\$39,540.00
OVER ONE YEAR	20,907	\$1,543,780.81

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** TOTAL AGING	25,454	\$1,876,140.81
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Untitled
SHRIMP SEASON OPENING: ZONE 2

TO: GOVERNOR KATHLEEN B. BLANCO
SENATOR REGGIE DUPRE
REPRESENTATIVE LOULAN PITRE
LOUISIANA WL&F COMMISSION

WE, THE COMMERCIAL SHRIMPERS OF ZONE 2, OUR SUPPORT BUSINESSES AND CONCERNED CITIZENS, PETITION YOU TO GIVE US A FAVORABLE OPENING DATE FOR THE UPCOMING FALL OR WHITE SHRIMP SEASON. THE BROWN SHRIMP OR SPRING SEASON WAS OPENED LATE AFTER A GOOD MOON PHASE AND WAS CLOSED VERY EARLY RIGHT BEFORE A GOOD MOON PHASE. BOTH THE OPENING AND CLOSURE OF THE SEASON AT THESE CRITICAL TIMES CAUSED US TO HAVE A VERY SERIOUS LOSS OF INCOME IN AN INDUSTRY THAT BRINGS MANY DOLLARS TO OUR STATE, AND AN INDUSTRY THAT IS ON THE VERGE OF COLLAPSE DUE TO VERY LOW SHRIMP PRICES AND RISING OPERATING COSTS.

FROM INFORMATION THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO US AT PAST WL&F MEETINGS, THE SMALL WHITE SHRIMP THAT FORCED AN EARLY CLOSURE WILL BE OF MARKETABLE SIZE IN 5 OR 6 WEEKS FROM THE JUNE BROWN SHRIMP SEASON CLOSURE. WE RESPECTFULLY ASK THAT THE UPCOMING SEASON BE OPENED NO LATER THAN JULY 26, 2004 SO THAT WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO RECOUP SOME OF THE LOSS OF INCOME THAT WE SUFFERED.

RESPECTFULLY SIGNED,
LOWER LAFOURCHE PARISH ZONE 2 SHRIMPERS,
SUPPORT BUSINESSES AND CONCERNED CITIZENS

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Gary Dean Callan	Orville Sorensen
Erick M. Snell	Jim Poy
Todd Gisel	Aileen Espinoza
Chad Sedet	John Espinoza
Gerard Sedet	Larry Senterman
Vernon Lewis	Don Riffi
Amy Lapont	Anthony P. Thompson Sr.
Linda King	Frank Poy
Thomas P. Miller	James Poy
Harold Lee	Bill Simonis
David Phares	Monty
Bill Callan	Victor H.P.
Robert P. Thompson	Donald Jones
Sam Jones	Ray Jensen
Tracy Sordelin	Leslie Brown
Wm. H. Mott	Richard Savin
David G. Mott	Zora Smith/Clard
James Riley	Paul Smith
Vigie P. Johnson	Betty Andreas

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Rene Lymard
Chad Tatum

Joshua Naquin

Sammy Plaurance

Cheryl Duplantier Sultan

Dally B. Dwyer

John Edna Hillmore

Kathy Luff

MITCH Verdine

Jane Lupa

~~John Lupa~~

~~John Lupa~~

Roland Hurlair

Steven Angelett

Sean J. Emmett

Tennie Giffon

Terry Callan

Jennifer Callan

Kelly Adams

Timmy Chummi

Dave Adams

Dora Bernard

~~Theresa H. H.~~

~~Theresa H. H.~~

John Lupa

Rodney S. Goring Jr

Kathy Arnold

Tommy Chummi

Eric D. Palle

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Carroll Thompson	Tina Tumbane - Boudreau
Dan	Robert J. Boudreau
Wanda Doucet	Dianna C. Chermak
Willie A. Doucet Jr.	Al Chermak
Bob Chermak	
Brook Chermak	
Max Chermak	
Cap Boudreau	
William Thorne	
Lois Hebert	
Maria De	
Katrina Chilton	
Laurie Hebert	
Reggie Ledet	
Linda L. Leaubonne	
Glen A. Terrebonne Jr.	
Michael A. Chermak	
Susan Leaubonne	

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Shantel Rouse
 Jolene Arceneaux
 Lori Yelverton
 Brandon Bondeker
 Linton Quamli
 Abraham Juss
 Alvin
 Eric
 Sam A. Ansell
 Corey Tuben R
 Steve Carter
 Allen Hill
 William J. Brown
 Mike Brown
 Mitchell
 Oliver Davis
 Nicole Davis
 Gary Mayfield
 Daphne

D. Ruching
 BAP LORRAINE
 Rick Duff
 Bob Carroll
 James J. Edwards
 Rodney J. Duce
 Jay S. Duce
 Scott S. Duce
 Johnny Bychard
 Danny Gao
 Jimmy Davis
 Marc Davis
 Gene Davis
 Terry Davis
 Fred Davis
 Alvin Davis
 Todd Cooper
 David Cooper

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Jessica Eymann	James St. Pierre
Mary Foret	Emilia Salinas
Rochelle Graham	Jill Graham
Clifton Graham	Brian Herr
Morgan Graham	Laurie Herr
Jordan Graham	Mark Pugh
Shelby Graham	Cherie Dufrene
Nicole Danos	Julia Fark
Gary Mayfield	Willot Vedros
Gabrielle Mayfield	Mark Walsling
Mary Danos	Chris G. Allmand
Linda Branfield	James Pugh
Billy Branfield	Rae Dufrene
Gary Kiger	Ram Spunk
Crystal Crow	John Pugh
Amice Petre	Erica Mills
Tommy Petre	Ludis Saggard
Oliver Saggard	James Saggard
Emmy St. Pierre Jr.	Jennifer Saggard

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Bill Lyette
 Bob
 Ben Allen
 Peter Plasmie
 Randy L. Tenebone
 John P. West
 Claire Tenebone
 Ed Tenebone
 Calvin Tenebone
 W. J. Tenebone
 John
 John Killeen
 Walt McDaniel
 Brad
 Carolyn B. Gynard

DESSÉ KENO

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

B. J. Hoff	Jimmy Holt-YWOOD
James Eymard	Harriet Vunsted
Patty Sniff	Dorsh Lerebenn
Wayne A. Serigny	Ronnie Brantley
JACK Serigny	Art Rich
JOHN BRUCE	Don Bruce
JOE BRUCE	Don Bruce or
Dann Borne	Amey Billed
Dina Borne	William Vega
Shawn Bly	Cindy Vega
Hedie H. Thomas	Don P. Griffin
Tacy J. Thomassie	Walter Griffin
J. Hoff	Allie Beutau
Ortiz P. Bluffin	Larry Thomas
E. J. B.	Mena Thomas
Tony Balliano	Charly Griffin
Betty Balliano	Russell Thomas
Philip Thomassie	Larry Thomas Jr.
Doralee Thomassie	T. Cummins

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Chris Collins	Eric C. Dill
Annette & Jerry	Thomas Soudter
Tom & Arnel	Delva Adams
Matthew & Genevieve	Jimmy Nelson
Kathy Darden	Clarence Dyer
Steve Carter	Andy G. G.
Earl Lee	Taya Collins
Ray J. Benson	Donald Dwyer
Ray J. Benson	Steve Hall
Robynne	Mark Nelson
DA Allen	Leah S. S.
Jody & Cheramie	Alan Smith
Scott Harrison	Paul Smith
Angie Harrison	Joseph Menard
Joel Ann Sany	Donna Sany
Steve Williams	Justin Smith
Veronica	Vanilla Martin
Daniel T. Cheramie	Patricia Collins
Carl R. Martin	Russell Limer

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Mike Wilson	Don J. J. J.
Bill Johnson	Tina Belcher
Nancy Pace	Betty Kelone
David Johnson	Kathy Howell
Linton Larson	Denise Manjun
Chris C. Gaff Jr.	Paige DeBlanc
Geig. J. J. J.	Judy York
Patricia Tendon	Paul York
Pamela Bruce	Angela Copeland
David Griffin	Russ Griffin
Rich J.	Manson Dowl
Doug J. J.	Kathy J. J.
Donald J.	Rexie J. J.
Shannon Bourgeois	Walt J. J.
Susan J. J.	Leonard B. J.
R.D. Chastain	Easton J. J.
Jacques J. J.	Bessie L. J.
Mrs. M. J.	Walt J.
Sam J.	Buddy J.

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Kenneth Sarni	Paul Hunt
Linda Thibodaux	Ann T. Dunning
Rossie Harris	James Bell
Jenny Darcine	Bridget Wilbert
R. S. S. R.	Junior Melb
Gud Pace	Rebecca S. Carter
B. J. D.	Margory Hobbs
Mike H. H.	Christopher Bassel
Van Camp	Charles Kistock
David Aram	David Hagen
L. H. H.	Ch. Giffin
Billy DeLub	Clavin Davis
B. J. H. H.	Philip Davis
R. H. H.	Jason Davis
R. H. H.	Mike Davis
R. H. H.	Leslie Hayes, Jr.
R. H. H.	Holly Zellmer
R. H. H.	Barbara Gonzalez
R. H. H.	John Wilson

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Larry Pugs	Harold Cherie
Steve Pugs	GC Dordie
Donnie Crossy	Charles Dornik
Billy Swins	Jerry Cherie
Jerry Vasey	Guy Russee
John Bone	Ben Nile
Leith Bone	Norby Bazzard
Lois Bone	Noby Bazzard
Earl Lussace	Joy Bazzard ^{af 25-7} Myn ^{Sh}
Kenny Linsky	Daniel Lussace
Larry Terkper	Zurke Antie
Charles Liff	Zurke Antie Jr.
Leith Dams	Dare Antie
Lothe Dams	Tomy Pelanie
Gary Dams	Duke Dint
Larry Dordie Jr.	Dennis Dint
Larry Dordie Jr.	Daren Terone
Kerry Dordie	Moran Vazari
Jerry Melan	

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Delton Demme	Charles R Hall Jr
Mary Demme	William P. Gundy
Harry Hegmann	John M. Gundy
Kenneth Hegmann	Carolyn A. Gundy
Ed Dent Jr	Joan M. Gundy
Carol Collins	Amba M. Gundy
Ernie Collins	Chad M. Ruffone
Jef R	Richard Boyssan
Keith Lincoln	Mrs Hubert Lafont Jr
KEITH DEVERE	Donna D. Gaba
Nick Demme	Gaine Gombas
Edward A. Marts	Emily C. Signe
Ann Denton	Krista Scrigne
Aliaa Denton	Betty B. Boring
Robert Denton	Alley Boring Jr
Khil Embone	Ernie Egnard Jr
Carl Embone	Lydia Richarz
Lucille M. Hall	Susan Dye

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Donald DeLance	Suzanna D. Bony
Earl J. Chermis SR	Joseph Gambon
Adam Freni	Maria L. Spasito
Debra Colles	Markus Park
Tommy Hebert	Melba Griffing
Chadron Hebert	Mary Rose Lee
Daniel Keitance	Jeffery Lee
Beir K. Martini	Clarence Callan
Art Bonen	Sonia Chermis
Laura Lussignea	Adeline T. Callan
Leah Lopez	Belinda Allmond
Jessi Davis	D. G. J. Allmond Jr.
James Cabiva	Christel Rogers
Lamen Whiffin	Sidney Rogers, Jr.
Daniel M. Deroche	Cindy Bourgeois
Henry Dantin	John D. Bourgeois
Just Dantin	Luan Ng
Amanda Peyton	Art Callan
Kyle Jansen	Belinda St. Pierre

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Roy's Ship a	Lewis E. Cobb
Roy G. Burns &	Ethel Berry
Roy Burns Jr.	Mike Theri
Omyy Hoffman	Mike Tyler
Zack & Pine	Johnny Buck. S.
Tray Sellen	Phil Marie
Carly Myers	Nedie Vary
Orlene Myer S.	Tommy Vigar S.
Neddie Cheshire	Elaine Smith
Tommy Calfee	Tommy Vigar Jr.
William L. Cobb	Jimmy Hurlin
Tommy Anderson	Hester Gelin S.
Don L. Cobb	Hester Gelin Jr.
Jimmy Blythe	Ben Liffi
Missy Martin	Don Liffi
Michael Cobb	Nelly Liffi
Howard Lafford	Poppy Liffi
Karl Haback	Law Muralis
Jim Hanken	

Untitled

SHRIMPERS AND ALL CONCERNED PLEASE SIGN BEFORE JULY 15, 2004

Patrick Melan

Benny Bourgeois

~~Miguel Dandrea~~

Hobie Lendine

Sean Palmer

Jobie Hendrix

Michelle Tatham

Karen Asord

Sandy Tabor

Oeryl Acen

Annette Dardar

Rusty Paul Bruce

La'dhal Wilson

Anthony Chaurin

Terry W. Wilson

Liz Dini

Rex Collins

Quanta Rémont

Rickey A. Chaurin

Jerry Rémont

Marty Terrebonne

Tommy Urgot

~~Curtis Melan~~

Aubie Urgot

Kimbley Brantley

Robert Chaurin

Lorrie Chaurin

Molly Chaurin

Wayne W. Pale

Hobie Melancon

Joni W. Hayes

Rita Fosse

Sandra Hayes

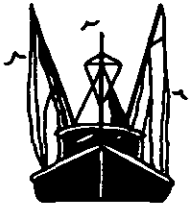
Anni Callan

Sarah Hayes

Ann Callan

J. Hayes

R. E. Andy



TIMOTHY P. KERNER
MAYOR

YVETTE CRAIN
TOWN CLERK

CLARENCE MATHERNE
CHIEF OF POLICE

TOWN OF JEAN LAFITTE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



Route 1, Box 1
Lafitte, Louisiana 70067
Office: (504) 689-2208
Police: (504) 689-3132
Fax: (504) 689-7801



ALDERMEN

LEO E. KERNER, JR.
MAYOR PROTEM

ELAINE BADEAUX
SHIRLEY GUILLIE
VERNA SMITH
CALVIN LEBEAU

July 9, 2004

Wildlife and Fisheries Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898

To Whom It May Concern:

Due to the fact that the importing of shrimp has domestic shrimp prices very low, fishermen are unable to make sufficient funds to support their families. The fishermen in our community would appreciate it if the season would open early so that they may have more of an opportunity to provide for their families.

In closing, it is vitally important for the fisherman and our community that you would consider opening the season early.

Sincerely,


Timothy P. Kerner
Mayor